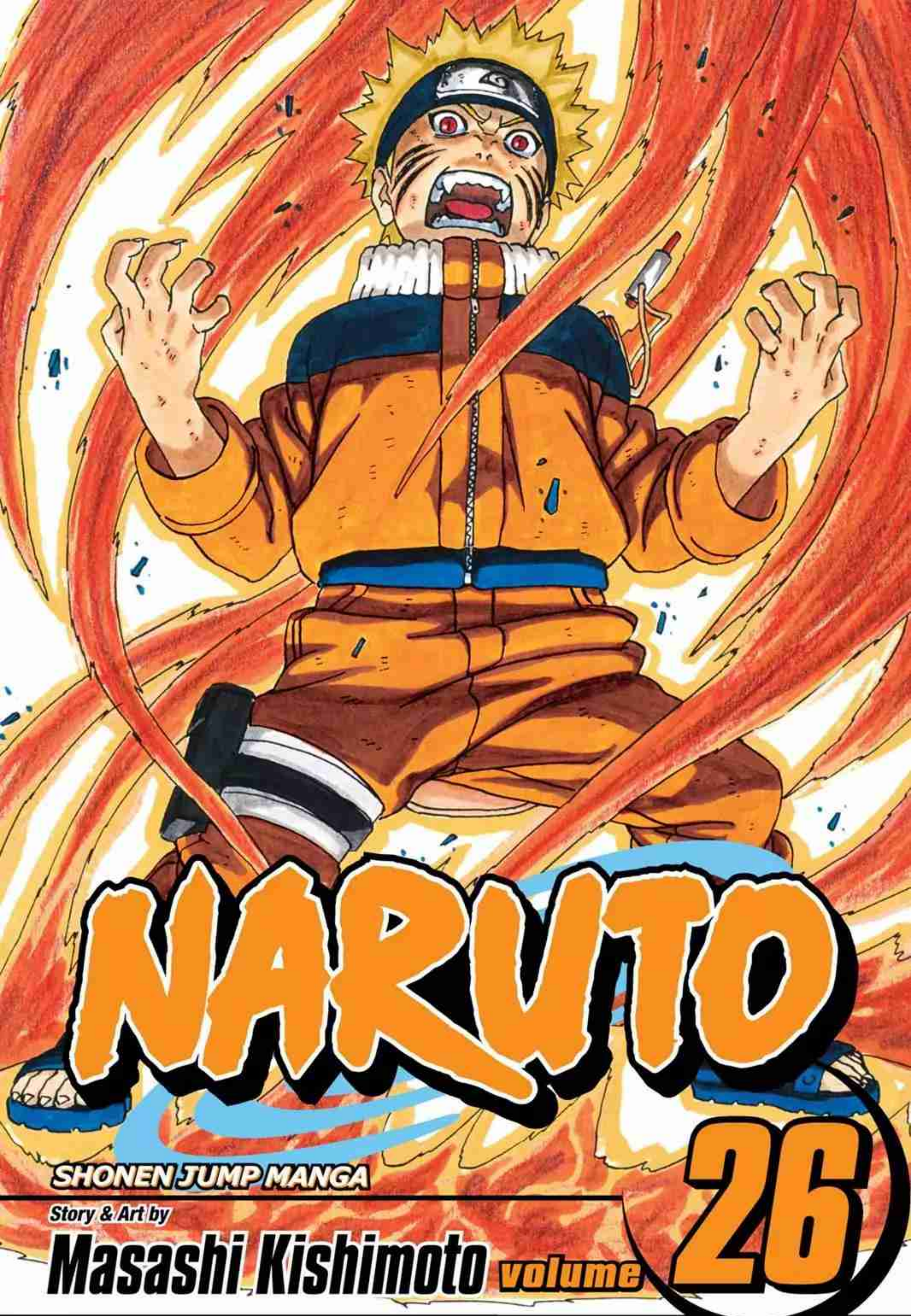
NARUTO
26
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Masashi Kishimoto
volume

岸本斉史

My cover image for this volume was inspired by the Nine-Tailed Fox Naruto that appears in the GameCube game, *Clash of Ninja*. They did such an awesome job with the presentation that I couldn't resist imitating it.

—*Masashi Kishimoto, 2005*

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

NARUTO VOL. 26
The SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO

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www.viz.com

PARENTAL ADVISORY
NARUTO is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

ratings.viz.com

SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

CHARACTERS
Sakura
サクラ
Sasuke
サスケ
Naruto
ナルト

The Story So Far...

Twelve years ago a destructive nine-tailed fox spirit attacked the ninja village of Konohagakure. The Hokage, or village champion, defeated the fox by sealing its soul into the body of a baby boy. That boy is Naruto, once the bane of the Konohagakure Ninja Academy.

Despite the rough start, he and his friends, Sasuke and Sakura, successfully join the ranks of the ninja. During the Chûnin Ninja Selection Exam, they are attacked by Orochimaru, who vanishes only after he places a curse mark on Sasuke. Halfway through the third exam, however, Orochimaru and his henchmen launch *Operation Destroy Konoha.* The attack is thwarted when the Third Hokage sacrifices his life. After the deadly battle, Tsunade steps up to become the Fifth Hokage.

Charmed by the power of Orochimaru, Sasuke departs Konoha in the company of the Sound Ninja. In pursuit of Sasuke, Shikamaru and his team weather desperate battles. As Naruto finally closes in on his friend, Sasuke's mind is struck by vivid memories of his brother, Itachi.

NARUTO

VOL. 26
AWAKENING

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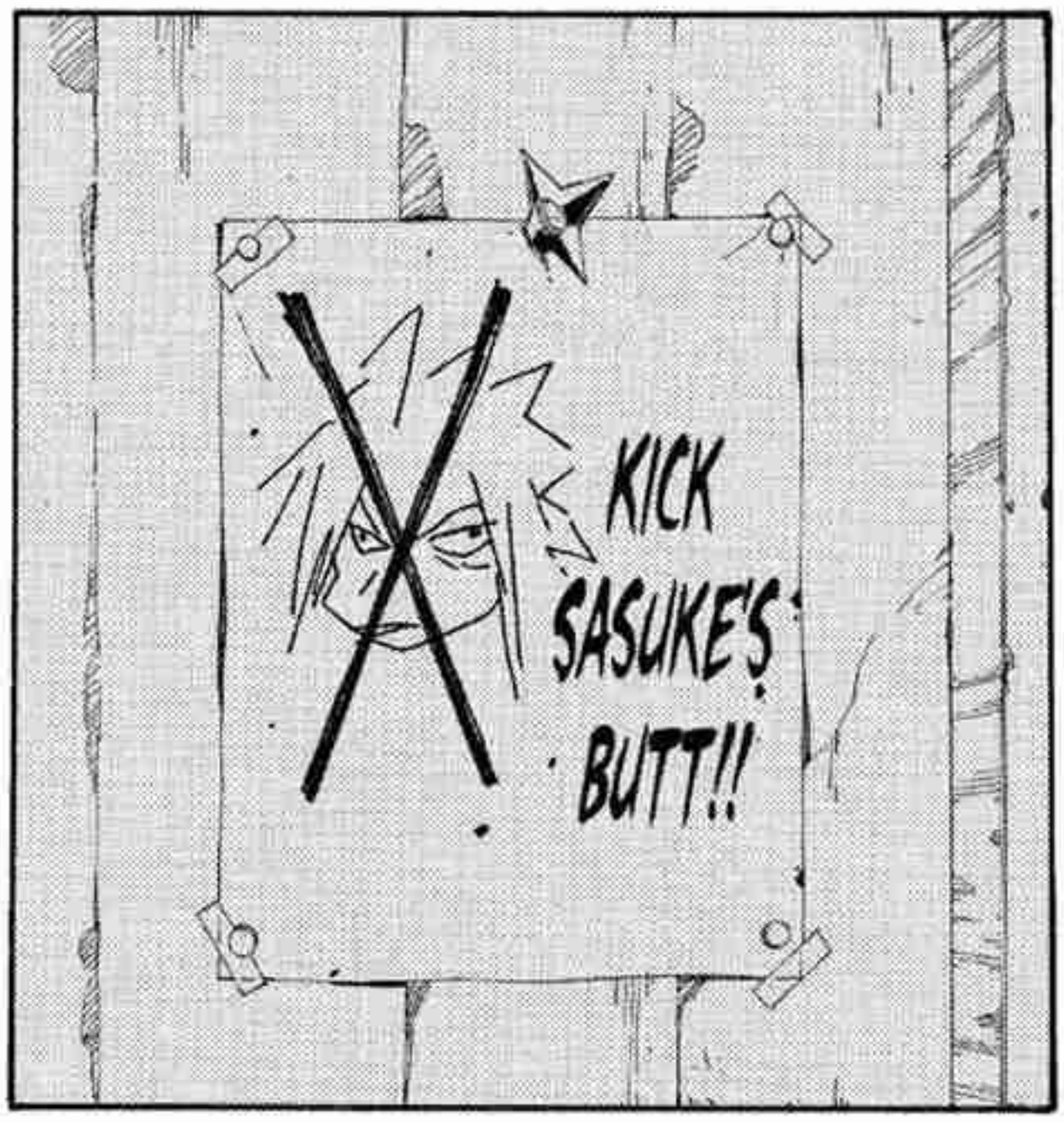
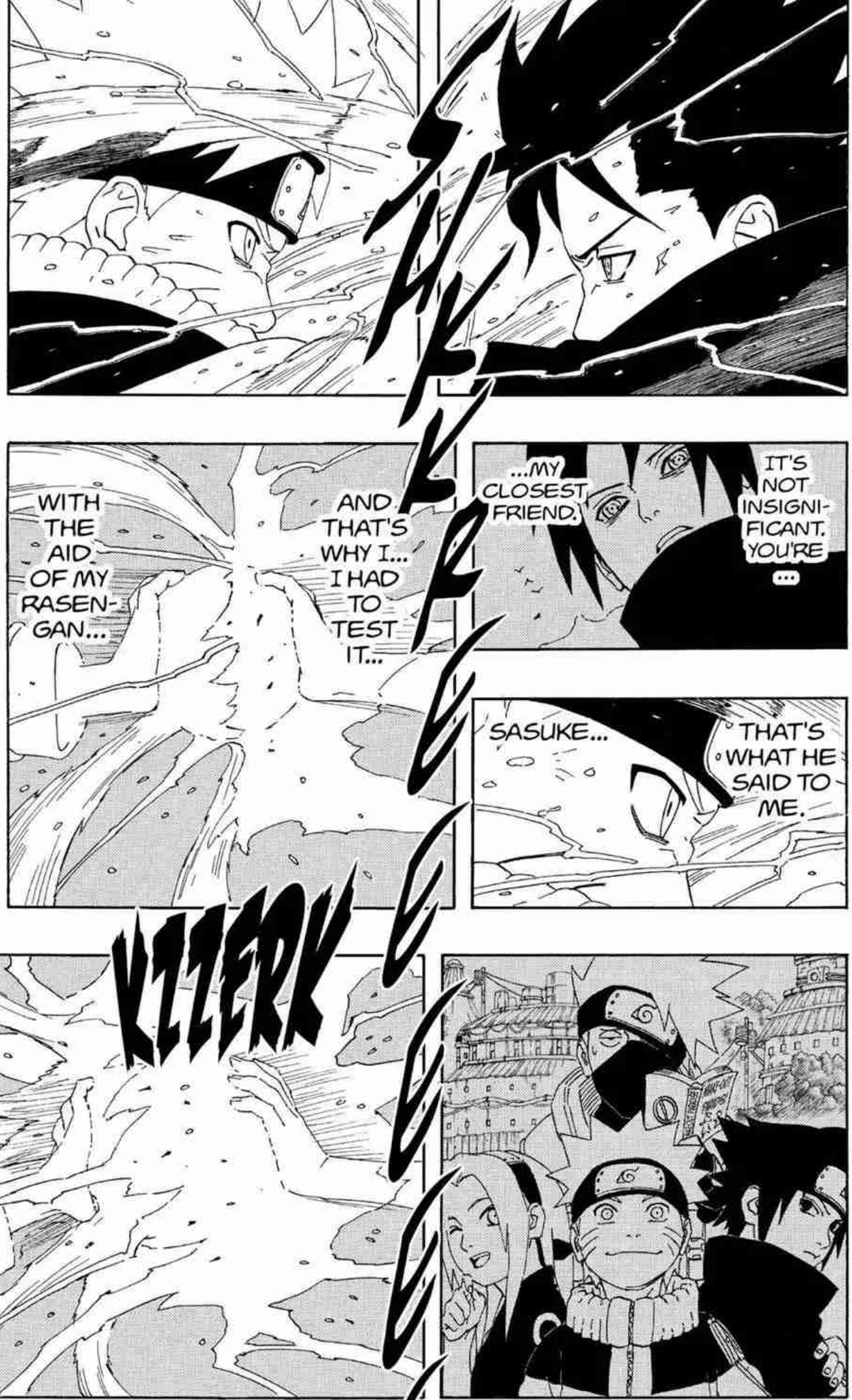
Number 227: Chidori vs. Rasengan!!

NARUTO

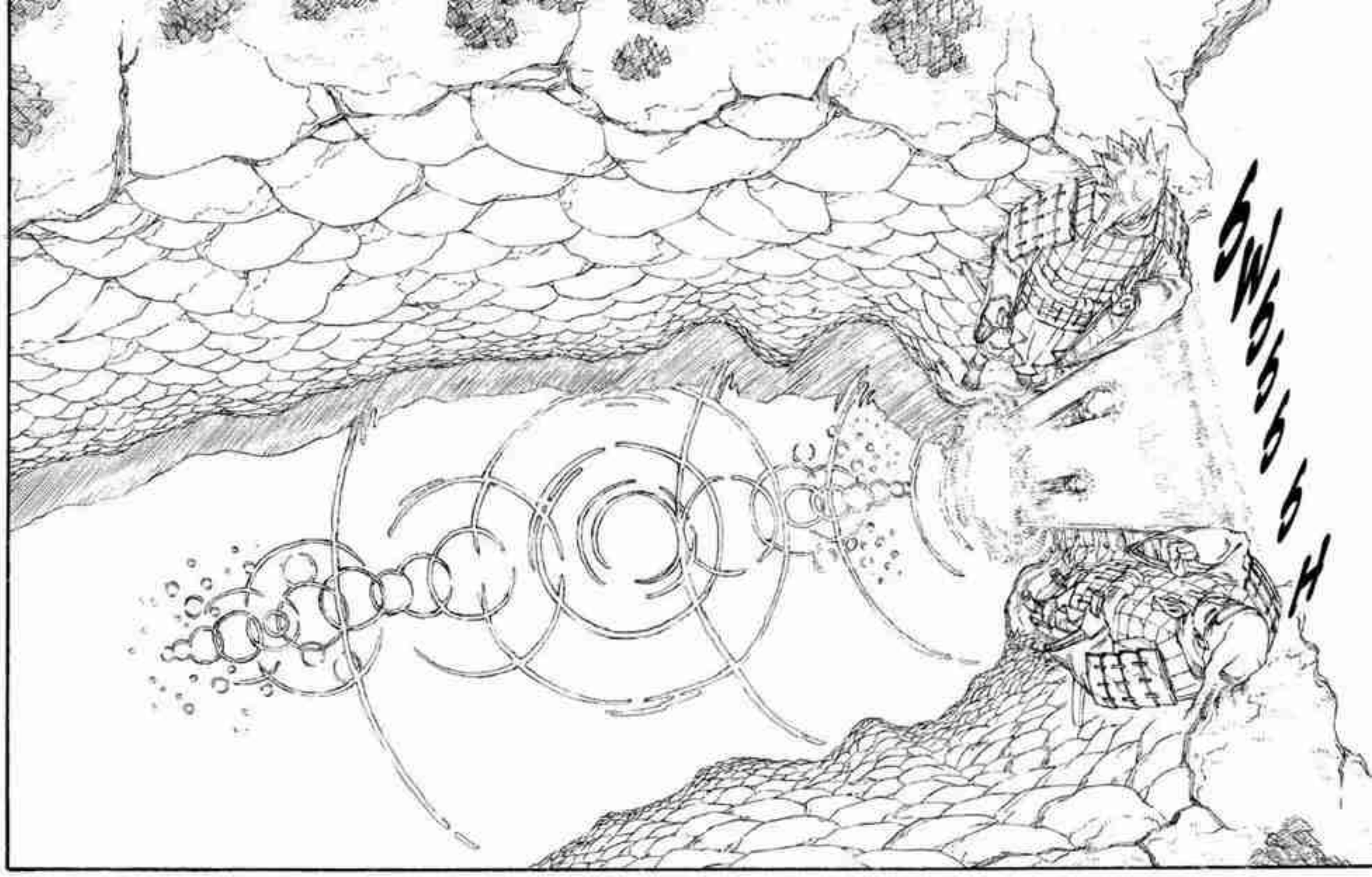



WITH THE AID OF MY RASEN-GAN...
AND THAT'S WHY I... I HAD TO TEST IT...
...MY CLOSEST FRIEND.
IT'S NOT INSIGNI-FICANT. YOU'RE ...
SASUKE...
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID TO ME.
KZZERK

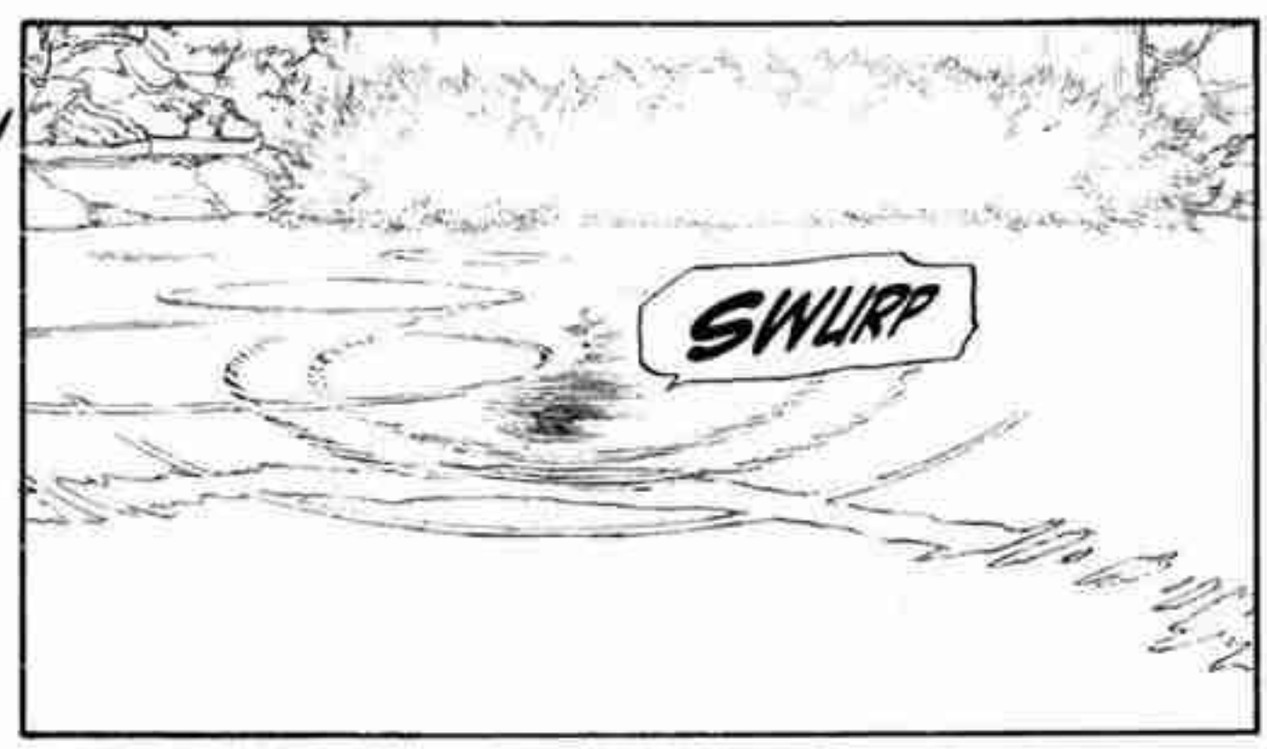
DOOM

SPASH PASH PASH PASH

SPASH
SWSSSSH
PLUP

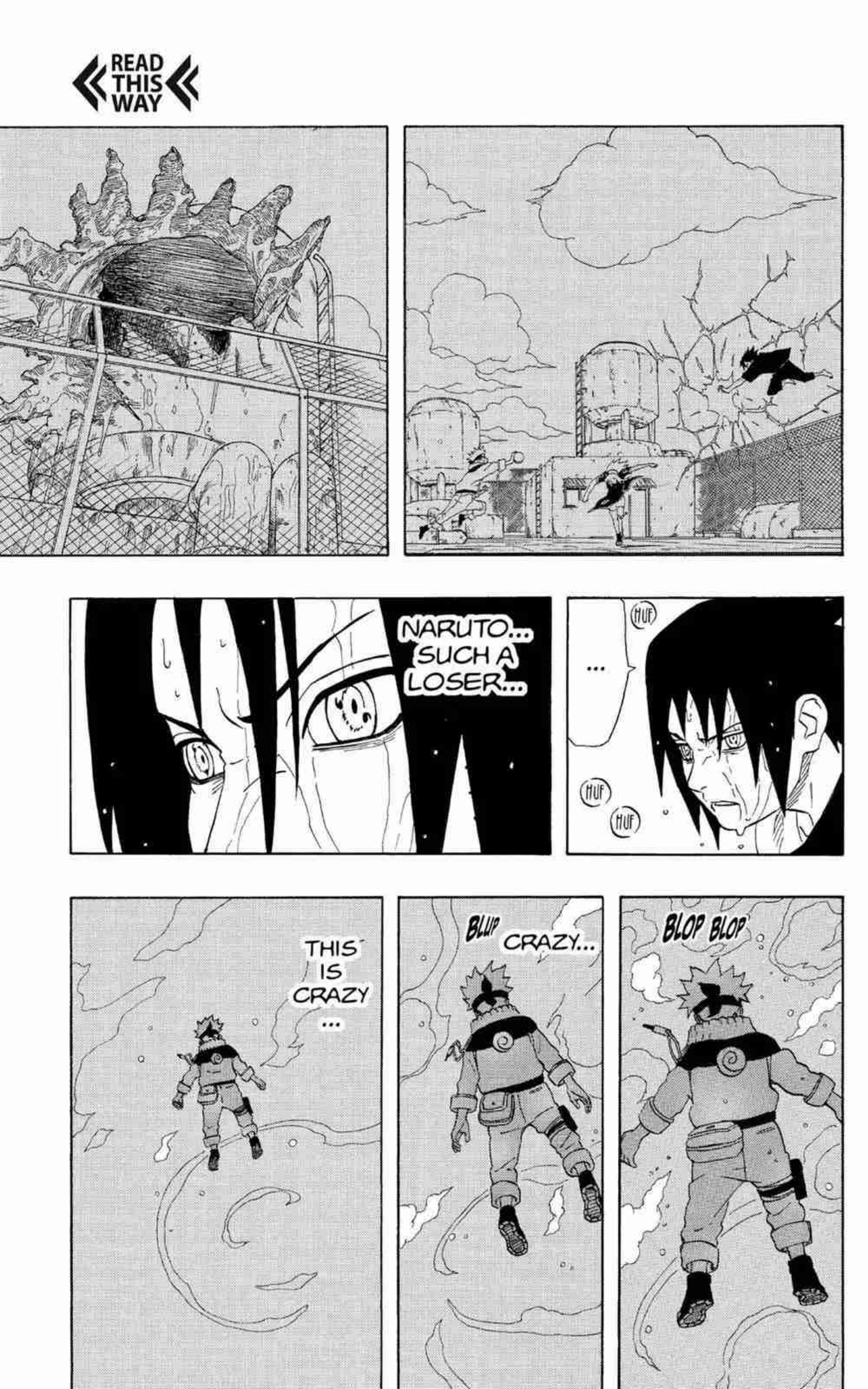

SWSSSSH

SPOOSH

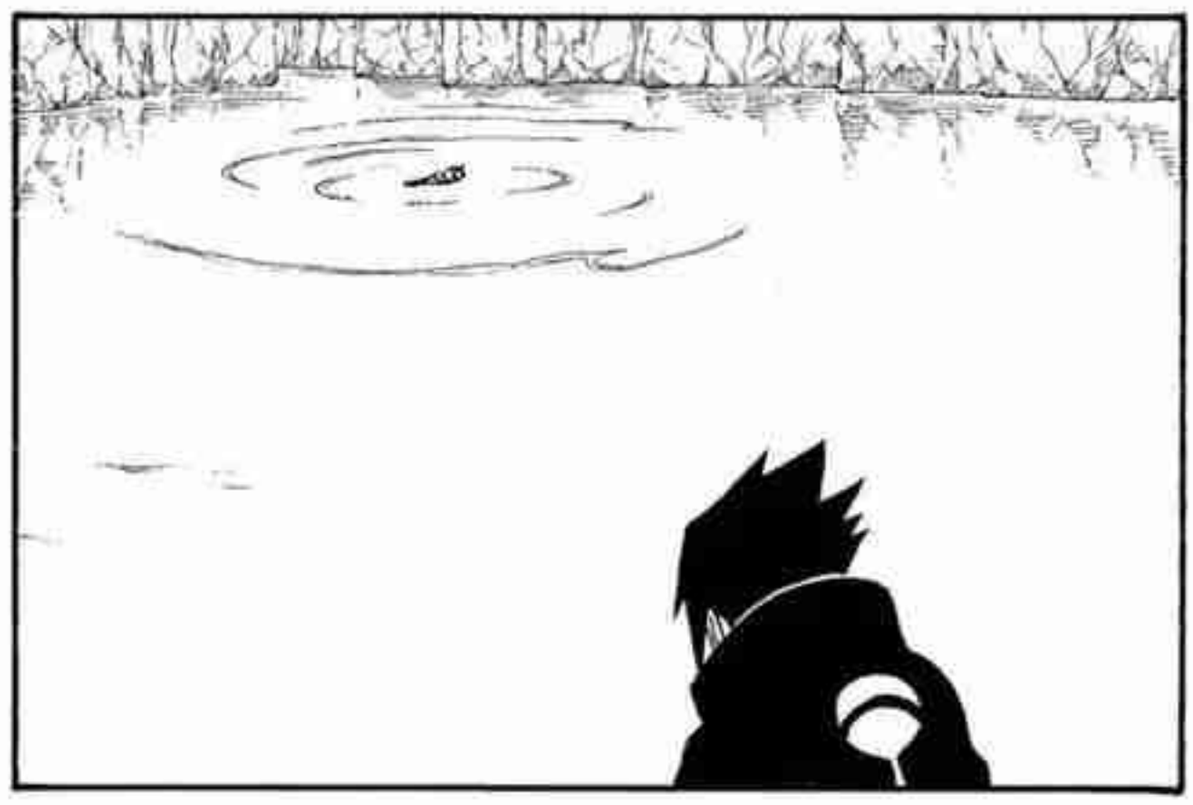

SWURP

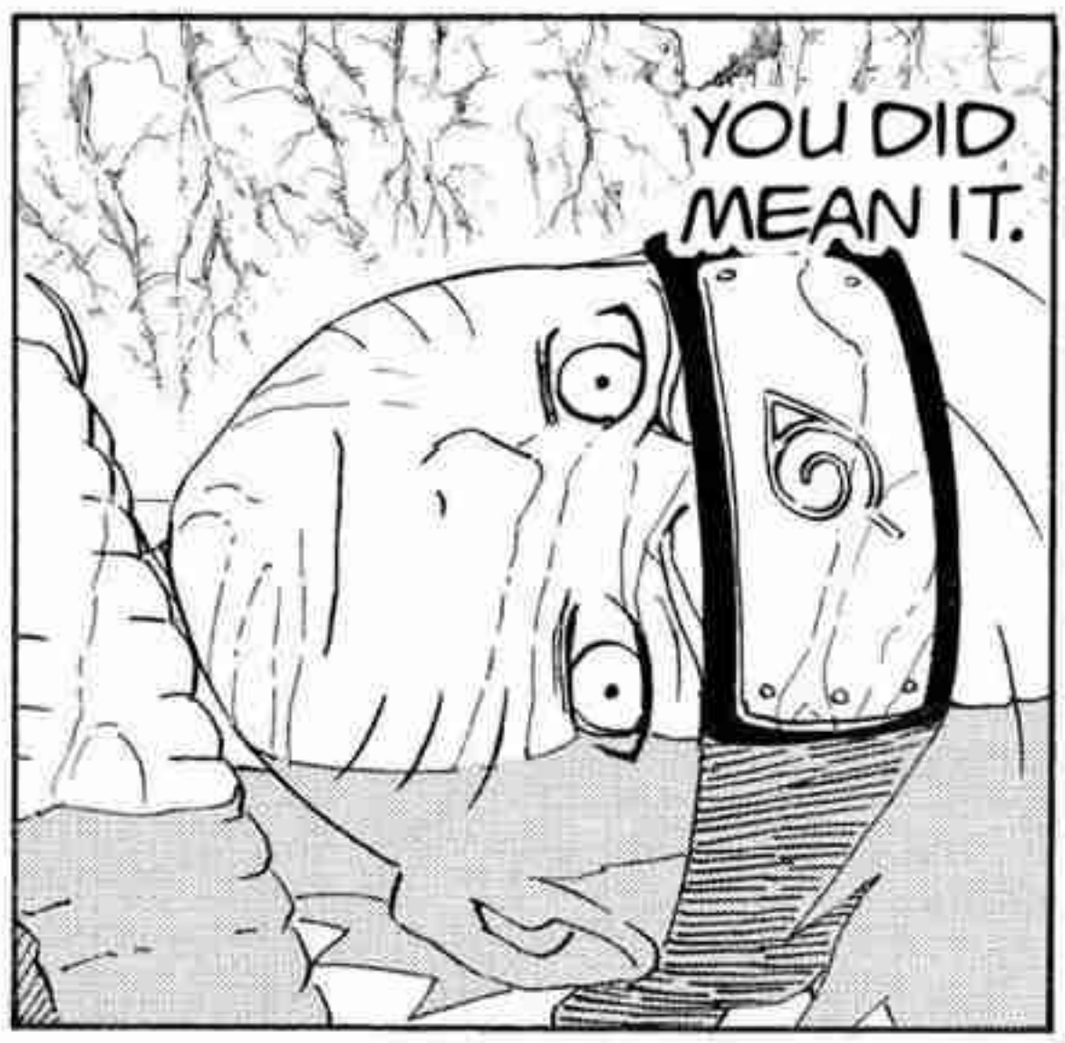
ARGH! AND I WAS AT FULL POWER, WHEN HE COUNTERED MY CHIDORI... AND HIS JUTSU...

HUF
HUF
SPAASSH


READ THIS WAY
NARUTO... SUCH A LOSER...
...
HUF
HUF
HUF
THIS IS CRAZY ...
BLUP CRAZY...
BLOP BLOP

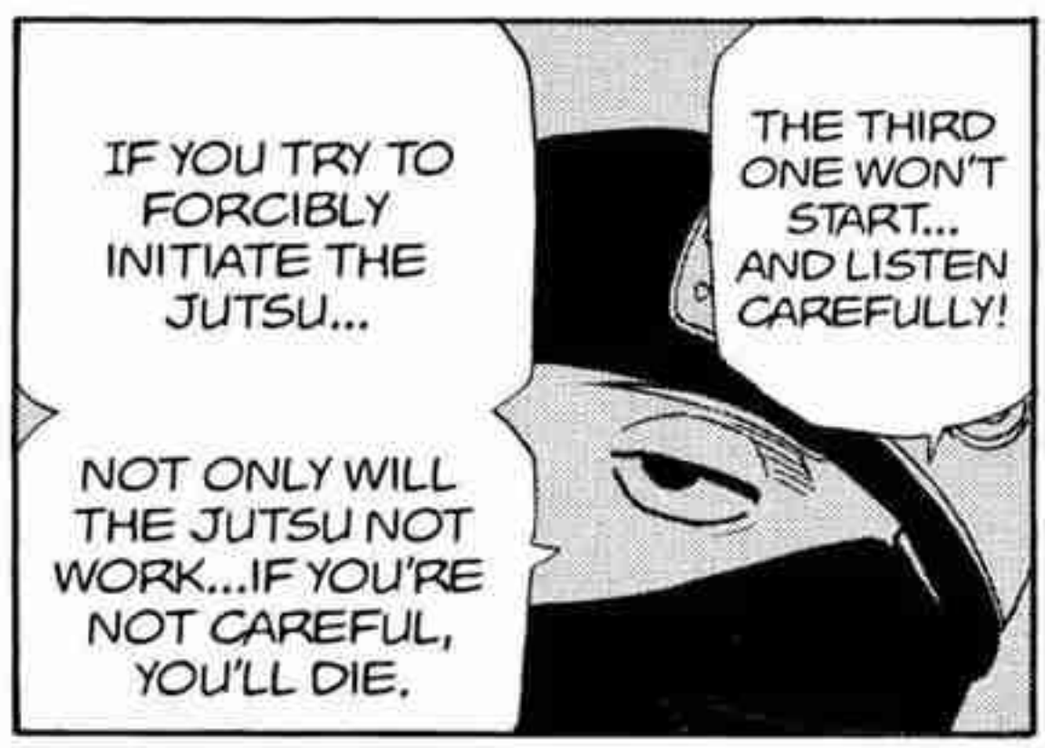
PLOOSH





WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I TRY TO PUT OUT MORE THAN TWO?

IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR LIMIT IS TWO CHIDORI...

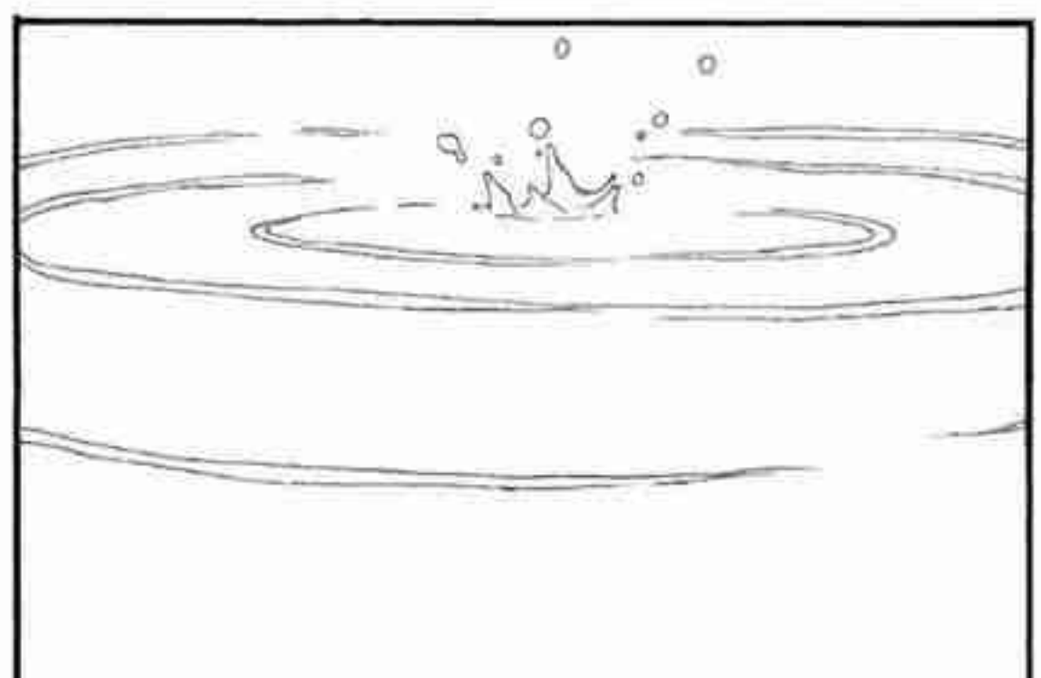

THE THIRD ONE WON'T START... AND LISTEN CAREFULLY!
IF YOU TRY TO FORCIBLY INITIATE THE JUTSU...
NOT ONLY WILL THE JUTSU NOT WORK...IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, YOU'LL DIE.

SPASH
SWSSSH

ESPECIALLY IF IT JUST DRAWS OUT THE STALE-MATE...
BLAST! CAN'T RISK WASTING ONE.

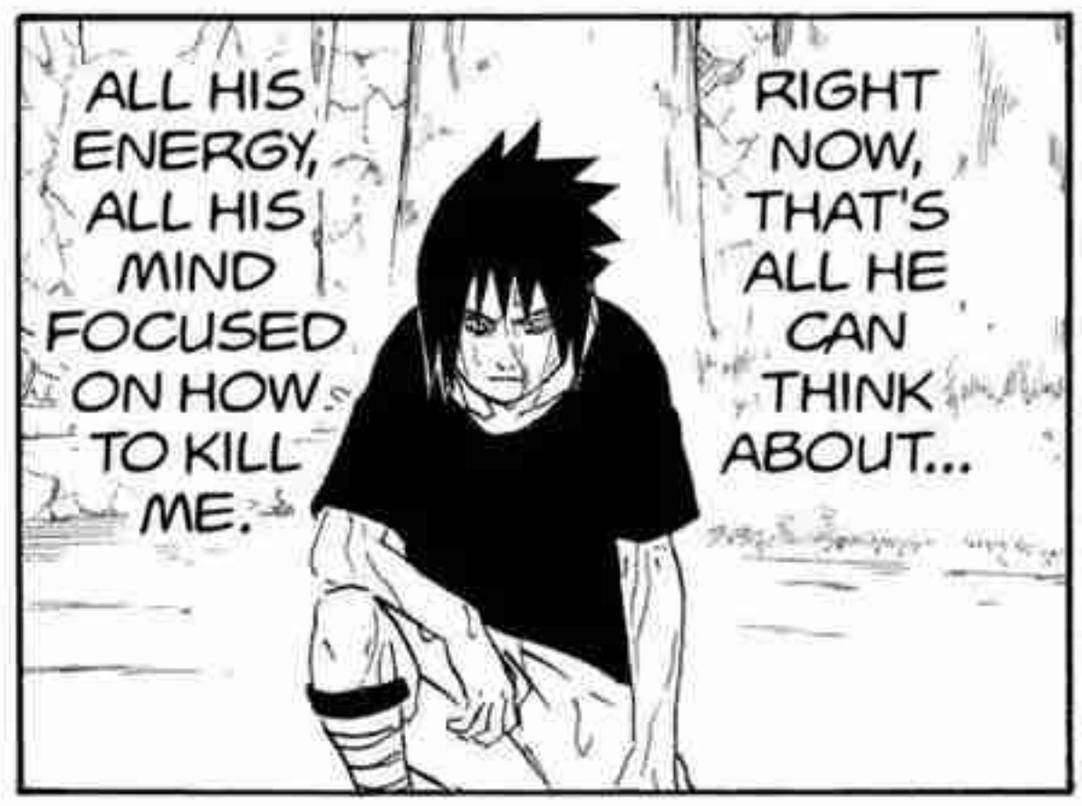
YOU REALLY MEANT IT.

THEN MOVE IN WITH THE CHIDORI. HIT HIM SQUARE, FULL-ON.
MY BEST BET... CREATE AN OPENING. QUICK MOVES AND JUTSU, IN RAPID SUCCES-SION...



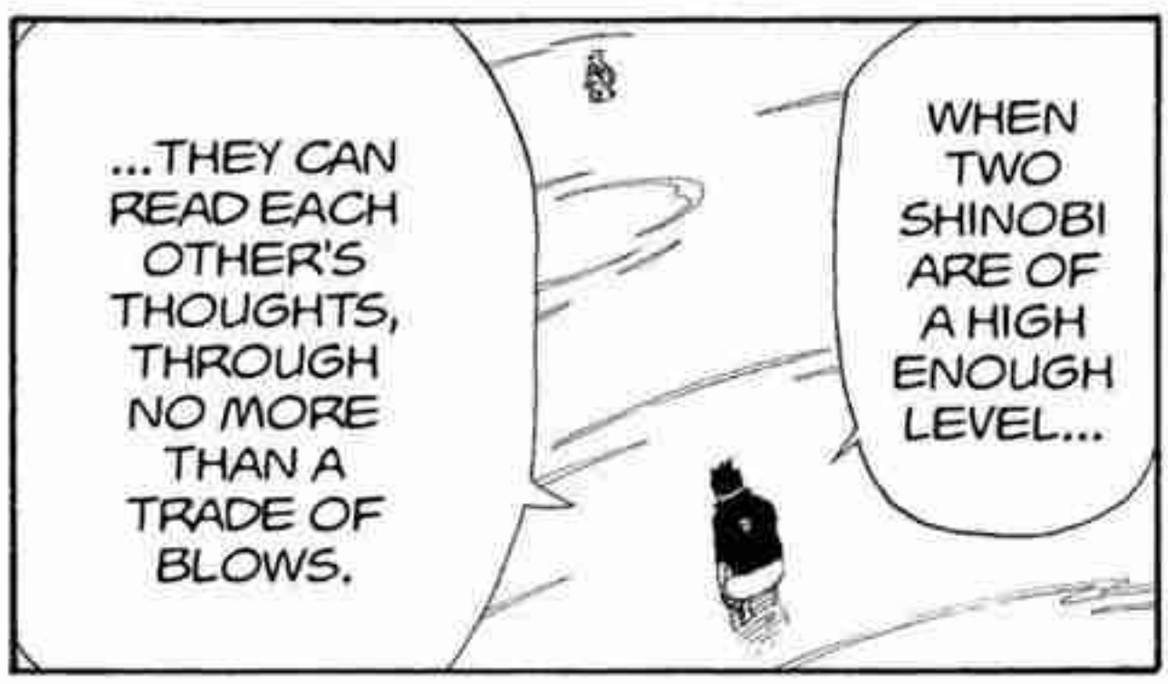
SASUKE...!

YOU REALLY WOULDN'T THINK TWICE ABOUT KILLING ME.



ZHUIP

ZHUIP


...THEY CAN READ EACH OTHER'S THOUGHTS, THROUGH NO MORE THAN A TRADE OF BLOWS.
WHEN TWO SHINOBI ARE OF A HIGH ENOUGH LEVEL...

DID YOU KNOW, NARUTO ...
ZHUIP

SO TELL ME.
AH, NARUTO... NAÏVE AS ALWAYS.

THEY DON'T NEED TO SAY A WORD.

FIRE STYLE!
HUPP
FWIP

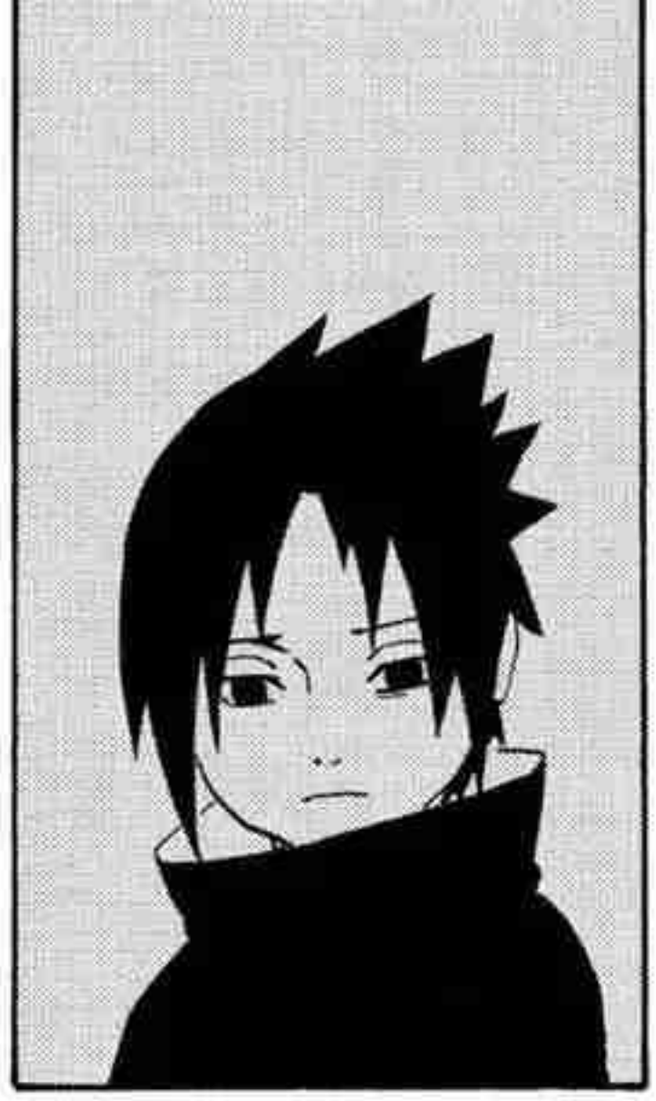
...

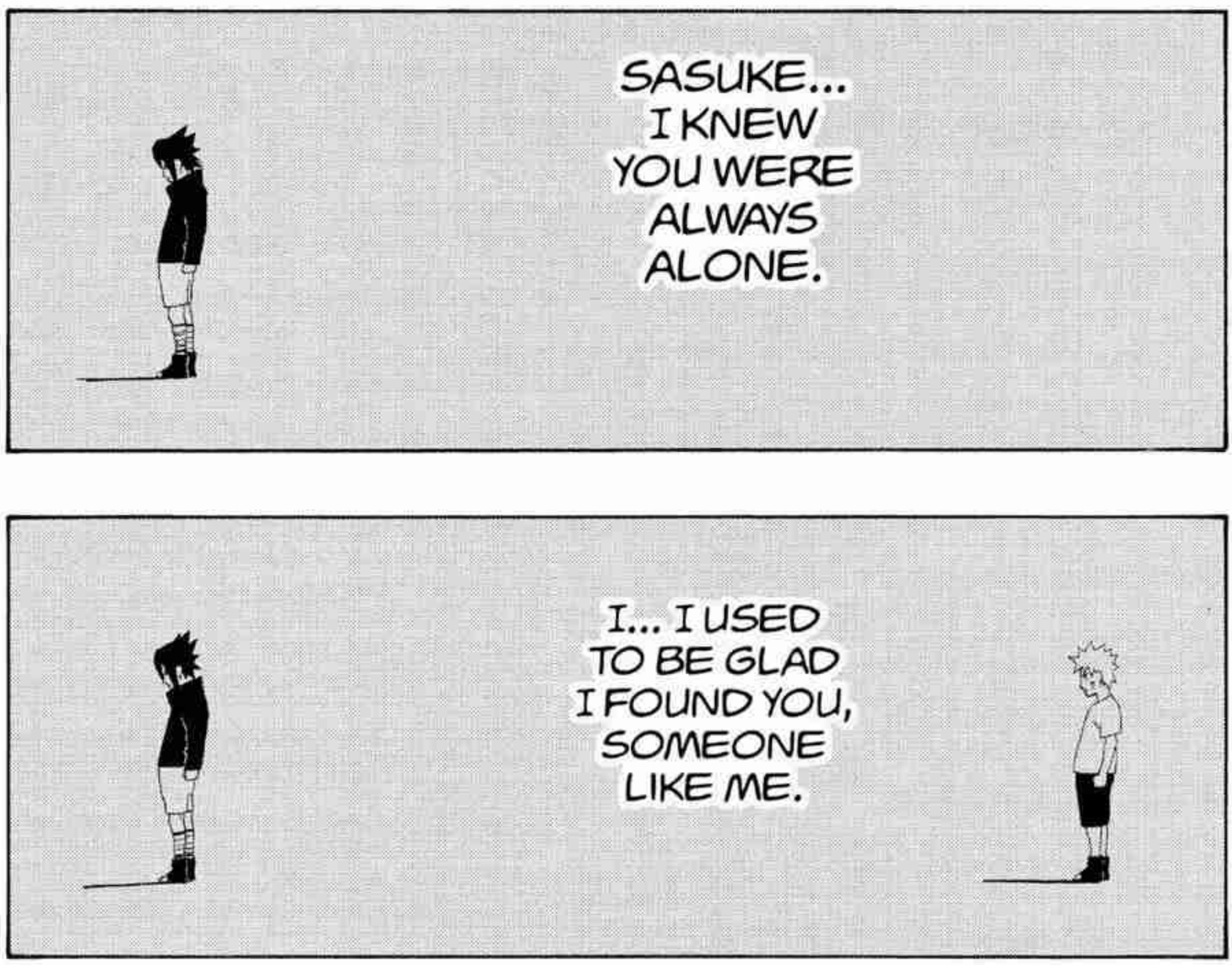
DO YOU KNOW MY THOUGHTS? CAN YOU TELL ME...
... WHAT'S ON MY MIND?
SHOOM

SHUPP

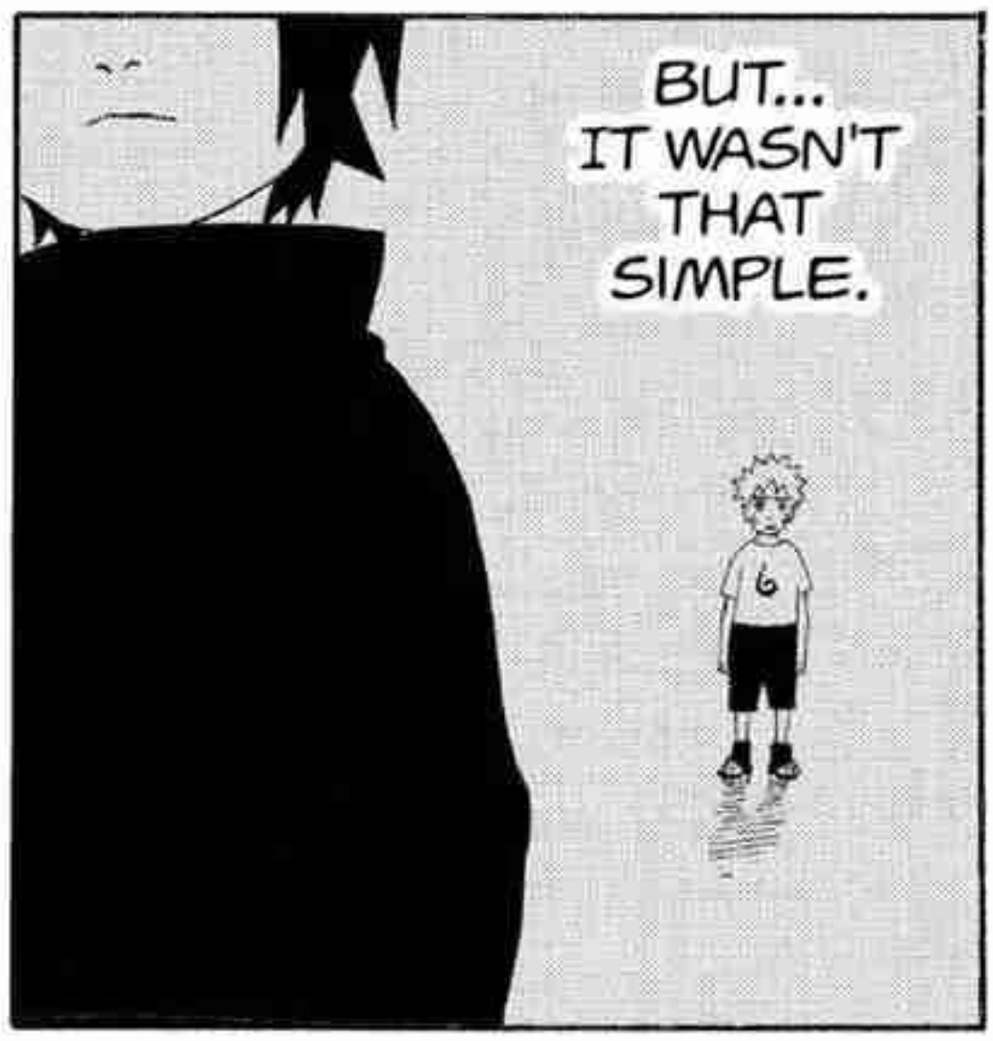
ART OF THE PHOENIX FLOWER!!
ZWO

!
WOOP
KLUD
SHW




SASUKE... I KNEW YOU WERE ALWAYS ALONE.
I... I USED TO BE GLAD I FOUND YOU, SOMEONE LIKE ME.

FROM FIRST GLANCE, I WANTED TO KNOW YOU...
I WAS... HAPPY.


BUT... IT WASN'T THAT SIMPLE.

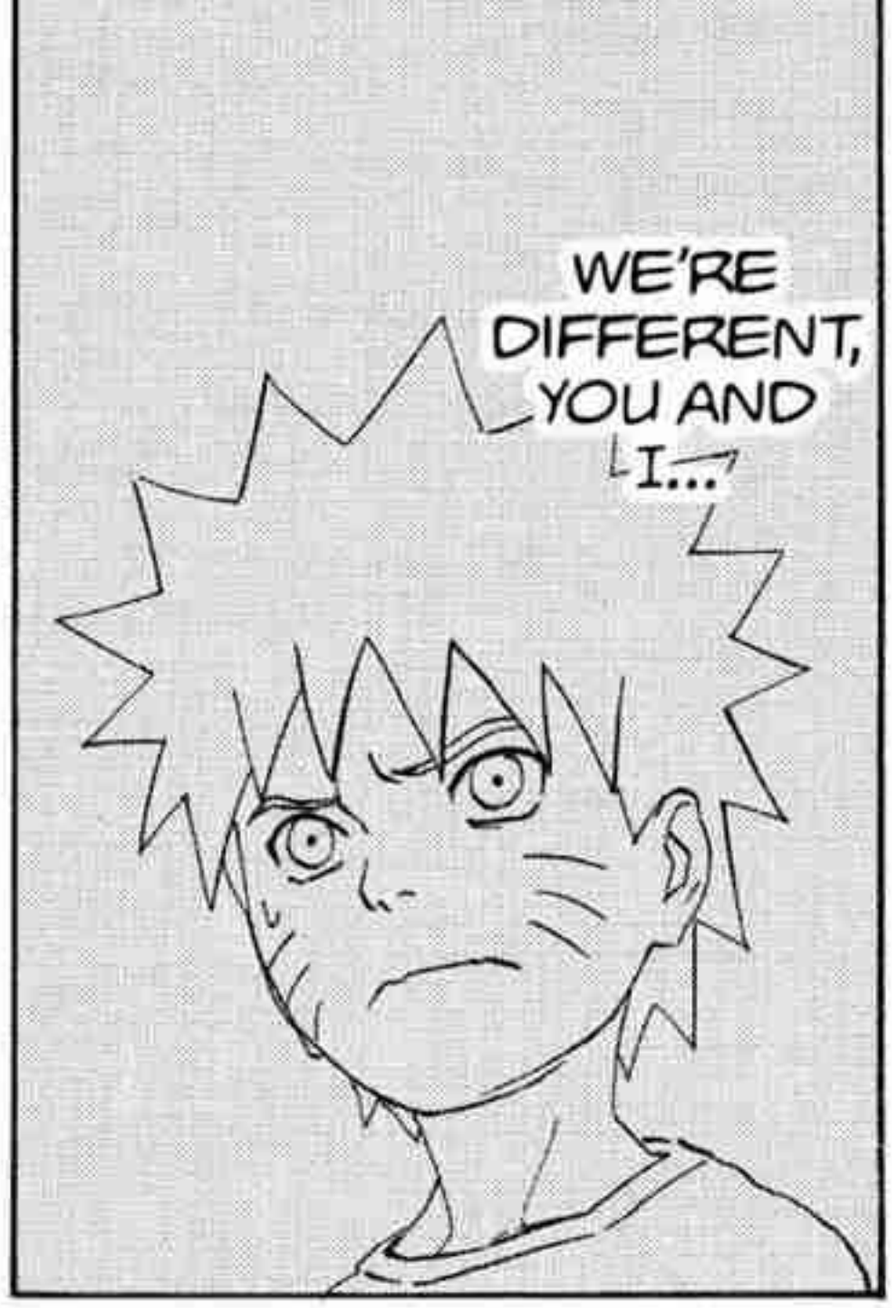
PASH
PASH
GOOSH

YOU WERE ALWAYS SO POPULAR ...

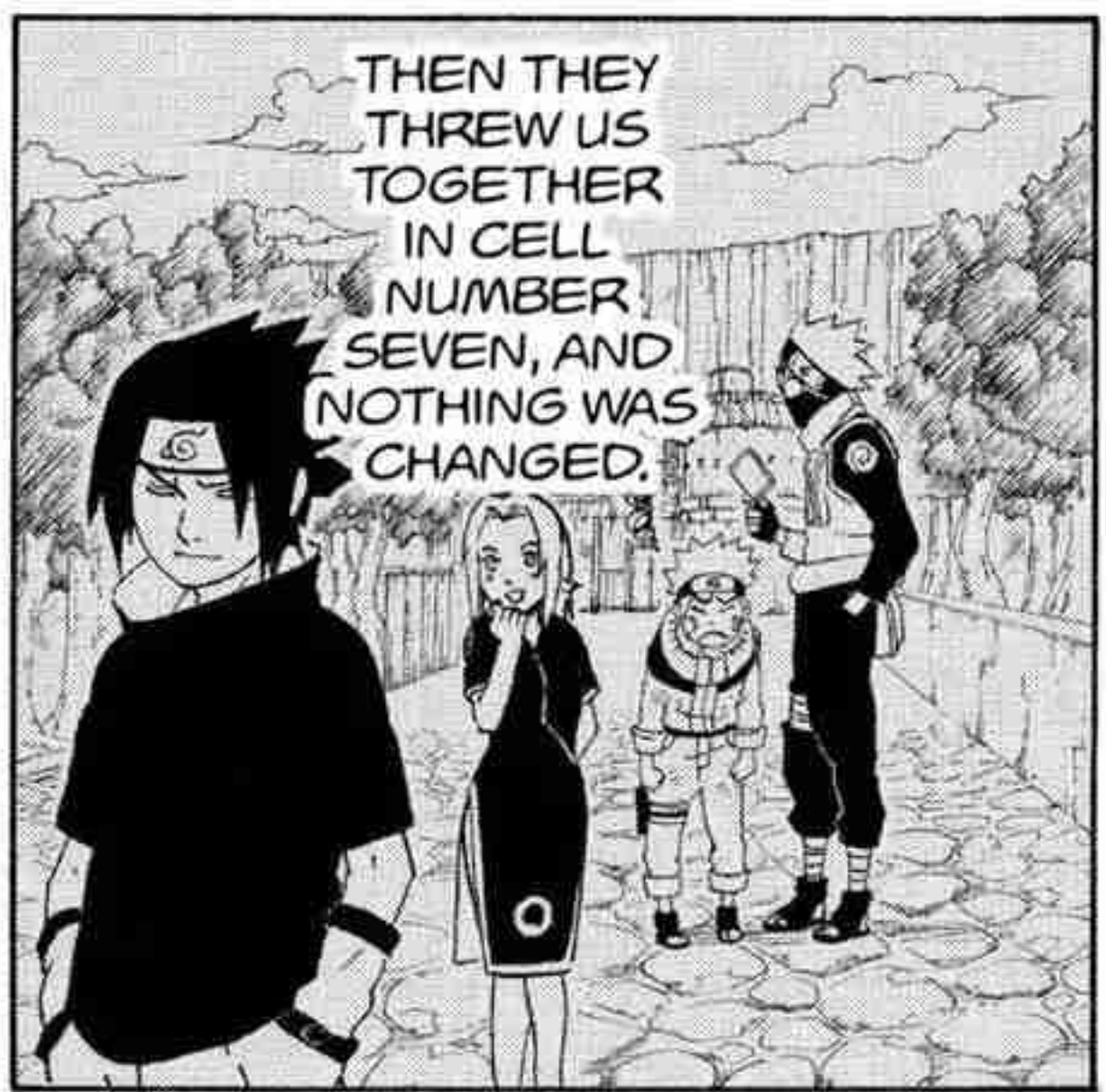
YOU COULD DO ANY-THING.
WOW
AWESOME
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

SHAA

SPASH

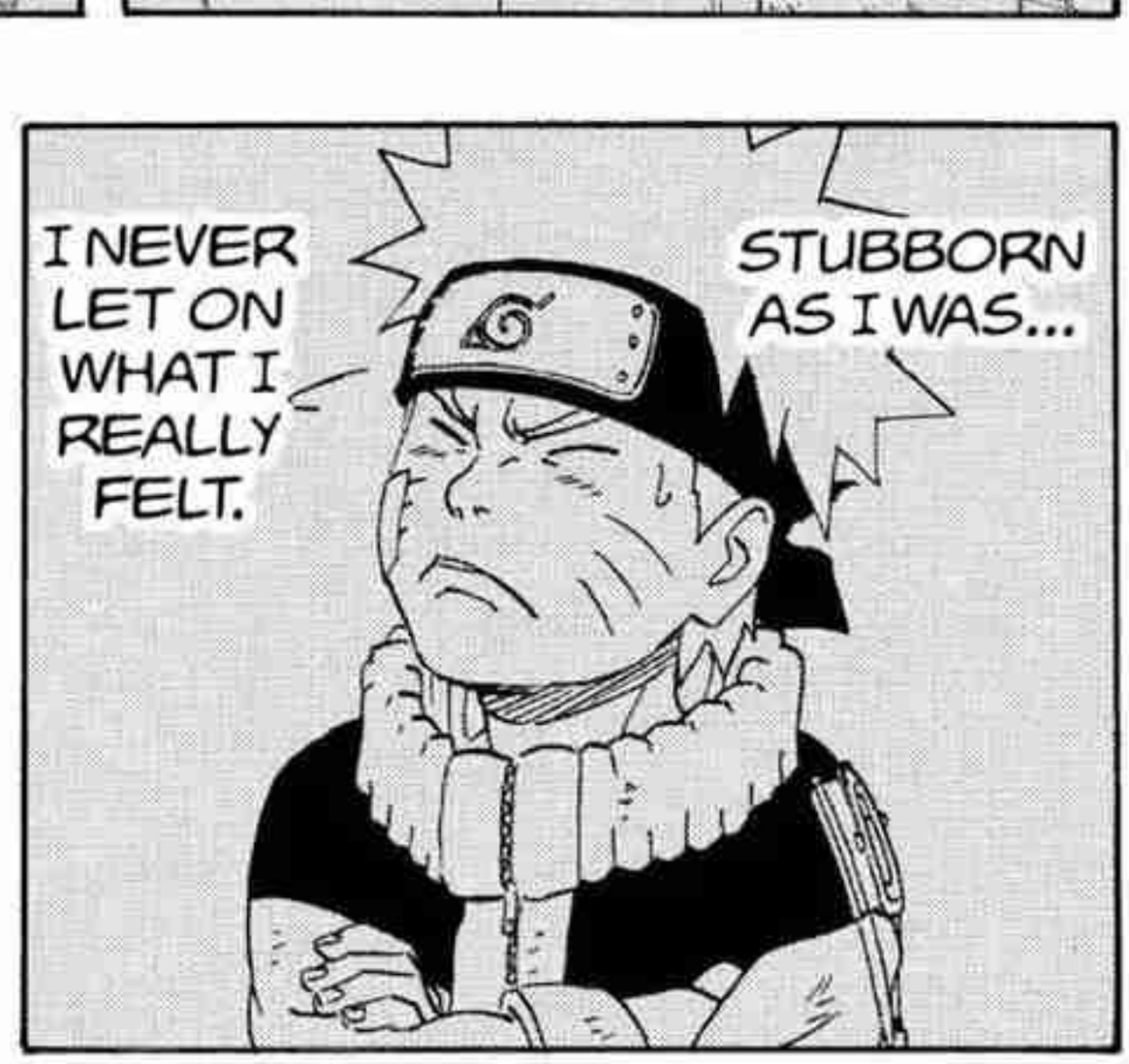

WE'RE DIFFERENT, YOU AND I...

PO
W


THEN THEY THREW US TOGETHER IN CELL NUMBER SEVEN, AND NOTHING WAS CHANGED.

I HAD TO BEAT YOU... 'SPECIALLY, WHAT WITH EVERY-ONE CALLING ME A LOSER.
KICK SASUKE'S BUTT!!
I WAS FRUS-TRATED AND I DECIDED YOU WERE MY RIVAL!

OAK


I NEVER LET ON WHAT I REALLY FELT.
STUBBORN AS I WAS...

TRUTH WAS, I JUST WANTED TO BE LIKE YOU.

YOU'RE ONE OF THE ONES I WANT TO FIGHT...

AND SO...

YOU WERE MY IDOL.

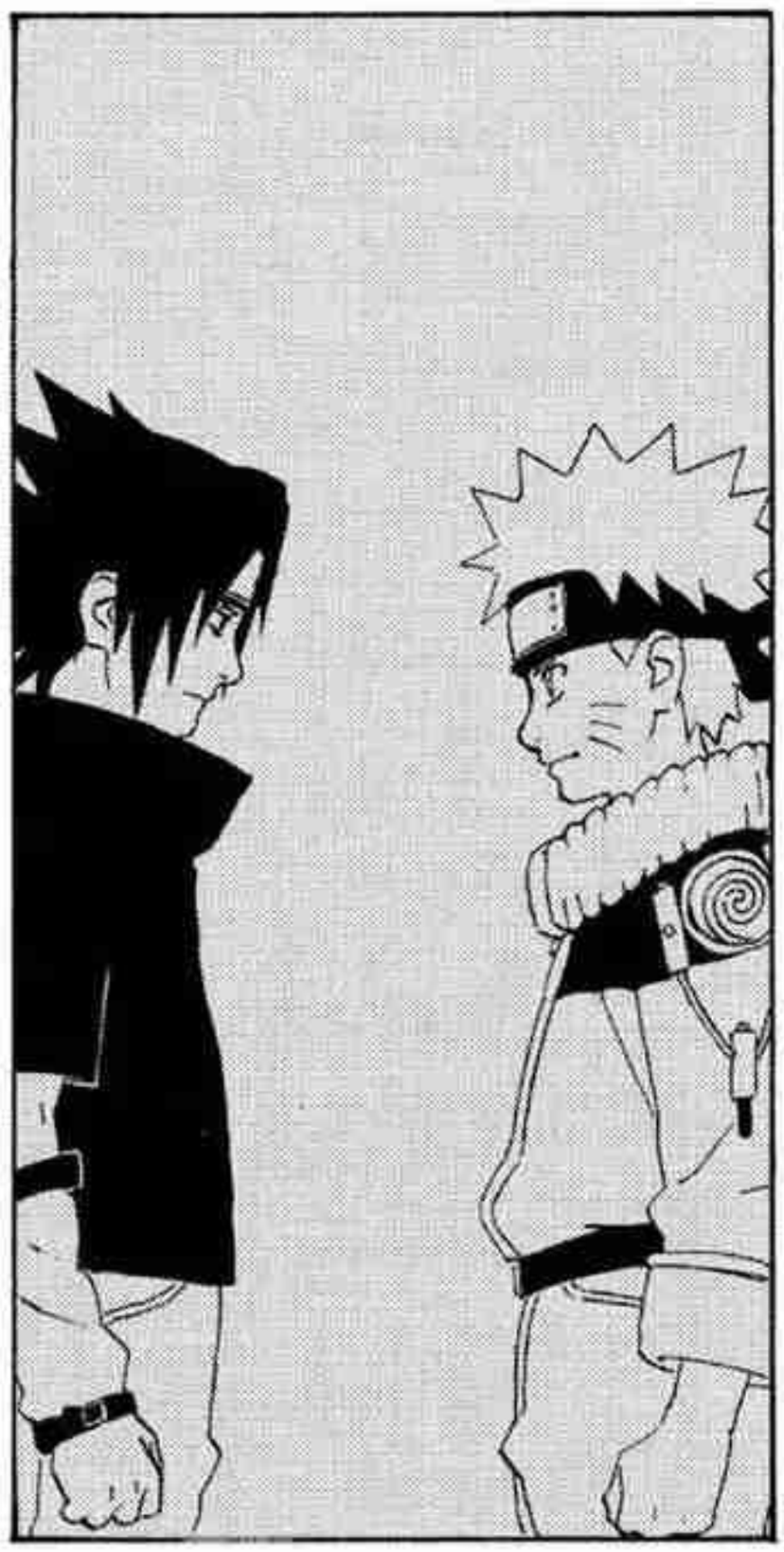
GRRR

YOU ACKNOW-LEDGED I WAS GOOD.

WITH THOSE WORDS, FOR THE FIRST TIME...

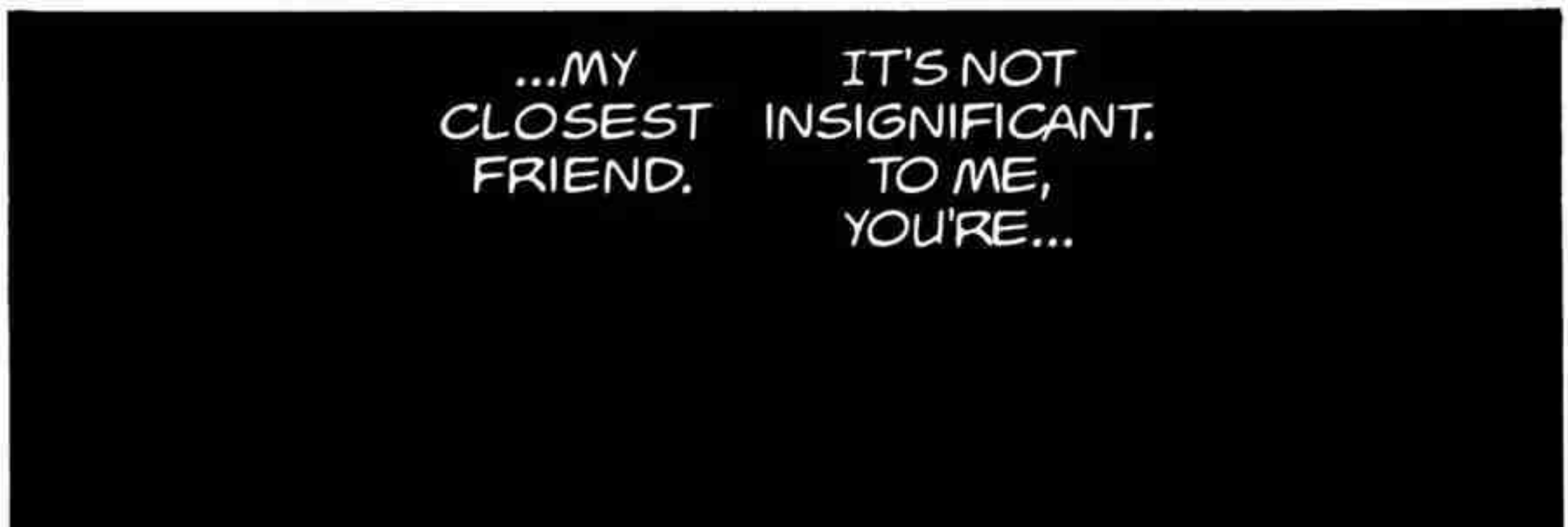
I WAS NEVER HAPPIER.

HEARING THAT...



WITHOUT SAYING A WORD, I KNEW RIGHT, THEN AND THERE...
AND... YES, WITHOUT EVEN TRADING BLOWS...
DZZAAAKK

...WE WERE FRIENDS!
SHUP


...MY CLOSEST FRIEND.
IT'S NOT INSIGNIFICANT. TO ME, YOU'RE...

READ THIS WAY
MAYBE I WAS JUST DELUDING MYSELF, THAT WE'RE FRIENDS. MAYBE I WANTED IT TOO MUCH...
GWUP
!
GWUP
SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE ANYMORE. DID YOU EVER MEAN WHAT YOU SAID?
AND YET... HERE YOU ARE, INTENT ON KILLING ME.
NARUTO!
YOU'RE TOO LATE...
SHIUKI

There's nothing wrong with a bit of depression. It just shows you're human.
That said, I'm fond of Naruto and Mr. Kishimoto: characters unburdened by doubt,
who always try to bring out their best.

2004.11.8 タカハシカズヒロ
Kazuhiro Takahashi

Number 228: Kakashi's Premonition

WHAT?!

ROOKIES? AFTER SASUKE?

TAK

...

SIGH.

I HAD NO CHOICE. YOU KNOW HOW THINGS ARE.

SLUMP

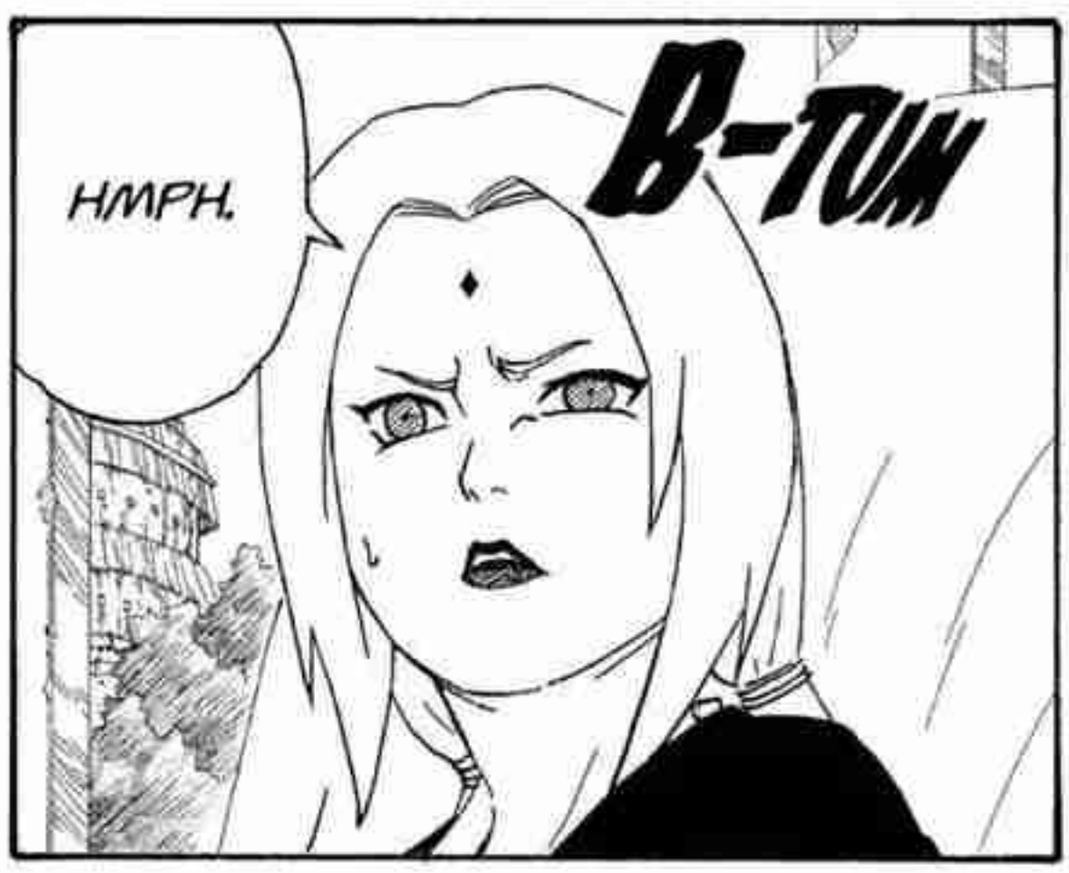
I DID ALL I COULD TO GIVE THEM A DECENT CHANCE OF SUCCESS.

YEAH, WELL... I'LL BE BACK.
SHF
DON'T WORRY YOUR-SELF.

BA-DUM
YOU'VE ALREADY GOT YOUR NEXT MISSION.
NOW, HOLD ON!
SHF
S級

SKFF
...

KUCHIYOSE NO JUTSU! THE ART OF SUMMONING!

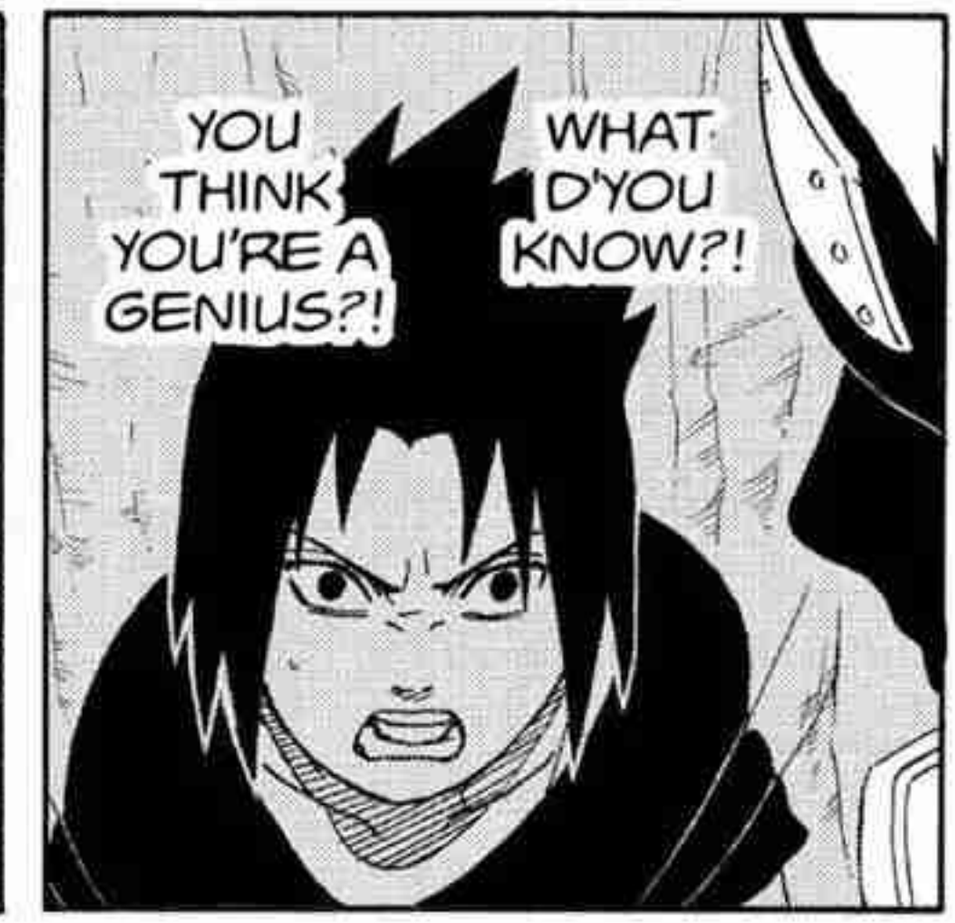

HMPH.
B-TUM

BONING

SCATTER!
NOW!

FSSH
FSSH
FSSH
FSSH
FSSH

SCATTER LIKE THE WIND. LOCATE THE SCENTS OF NARUTO AND SASUKE.
THE MOMENT YOU'RE SURE YOU'VE TRACED THEM, CALL OUT.
I'LL BE THERE...
WUFF! WUFF!


YOU THINK YOU'RE A GENIUS?!
WHAT D'YOU KNOW?!

...

RIGHT ON.

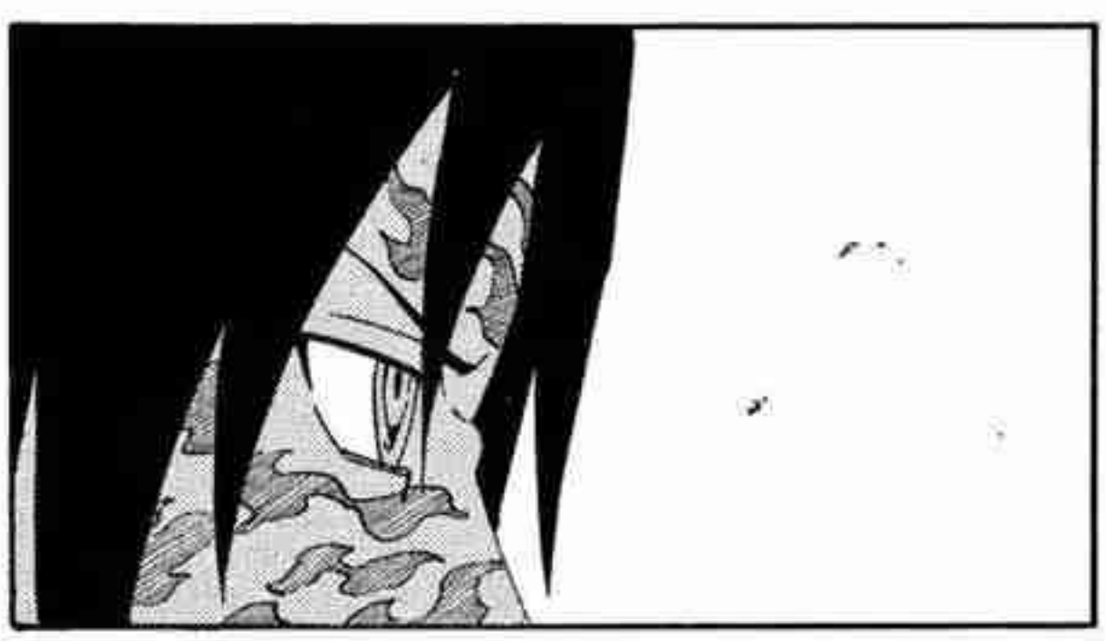
WAOO-OOOU!

THEY... THEY REALLY COULD KILL EACH OTHER...
I WAS NAÏVE.

PLEASE LET ME MAKE IT IN TIME!

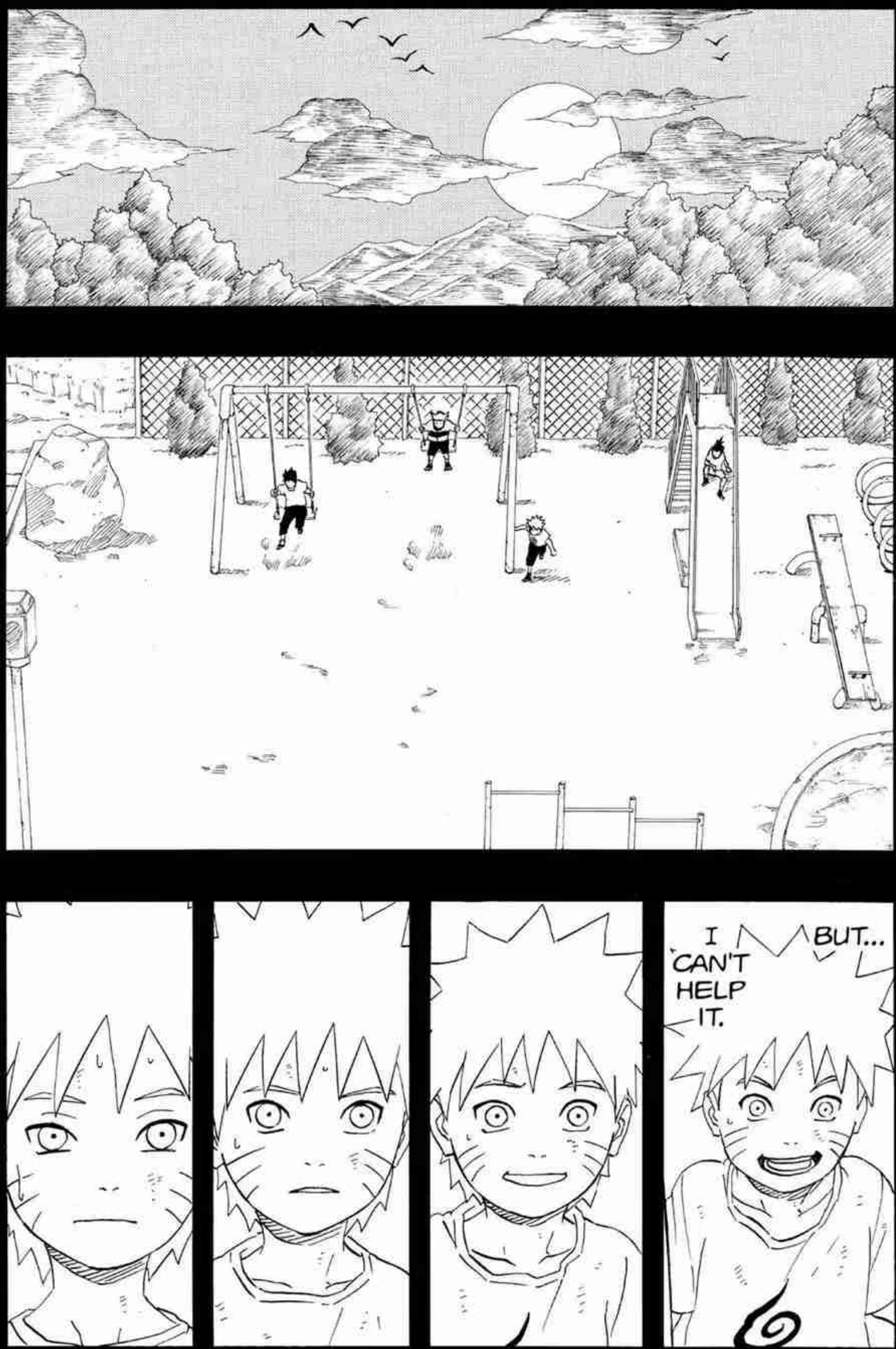
TUP

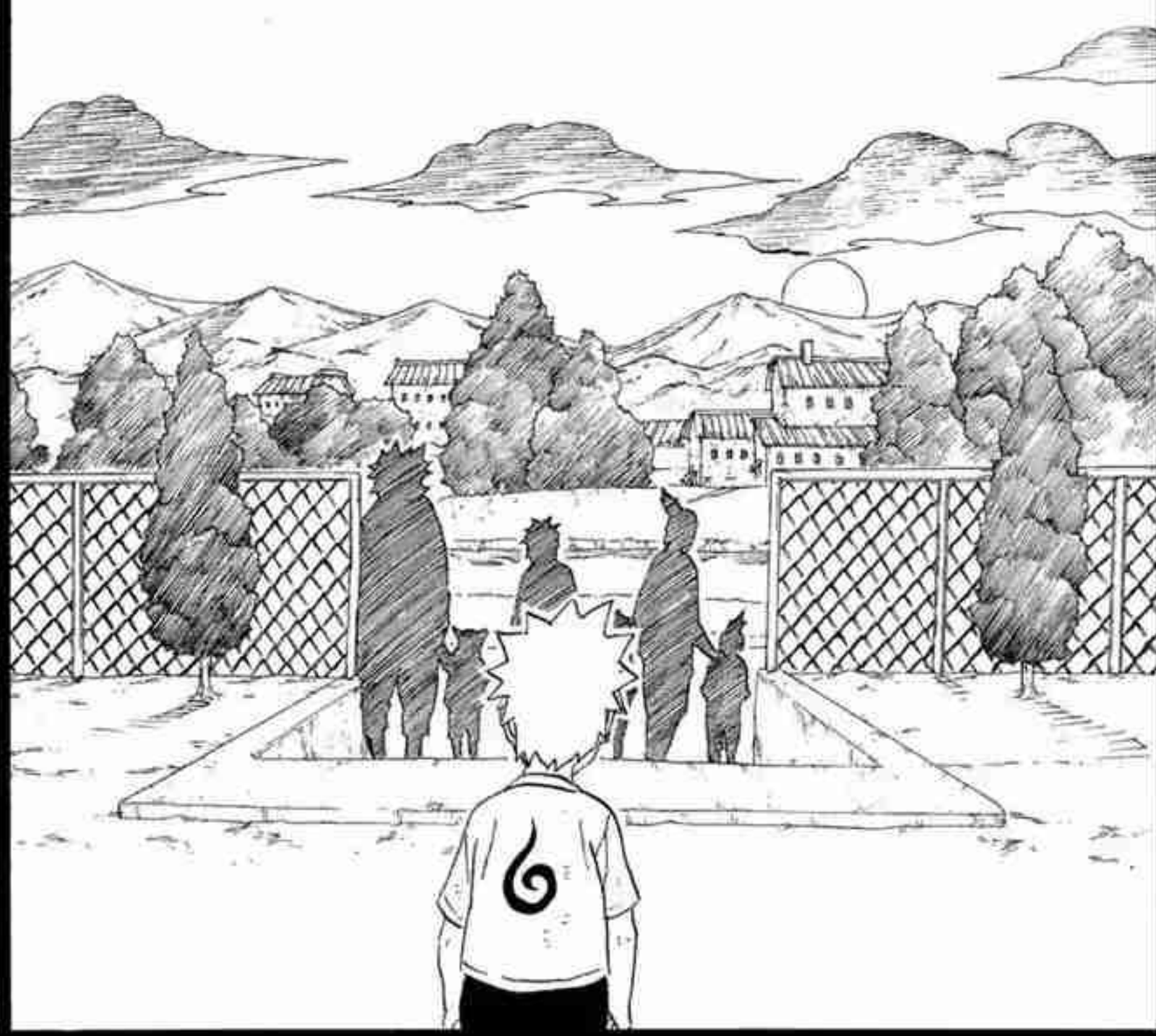
BUT THEN... THAT MAKES ME...

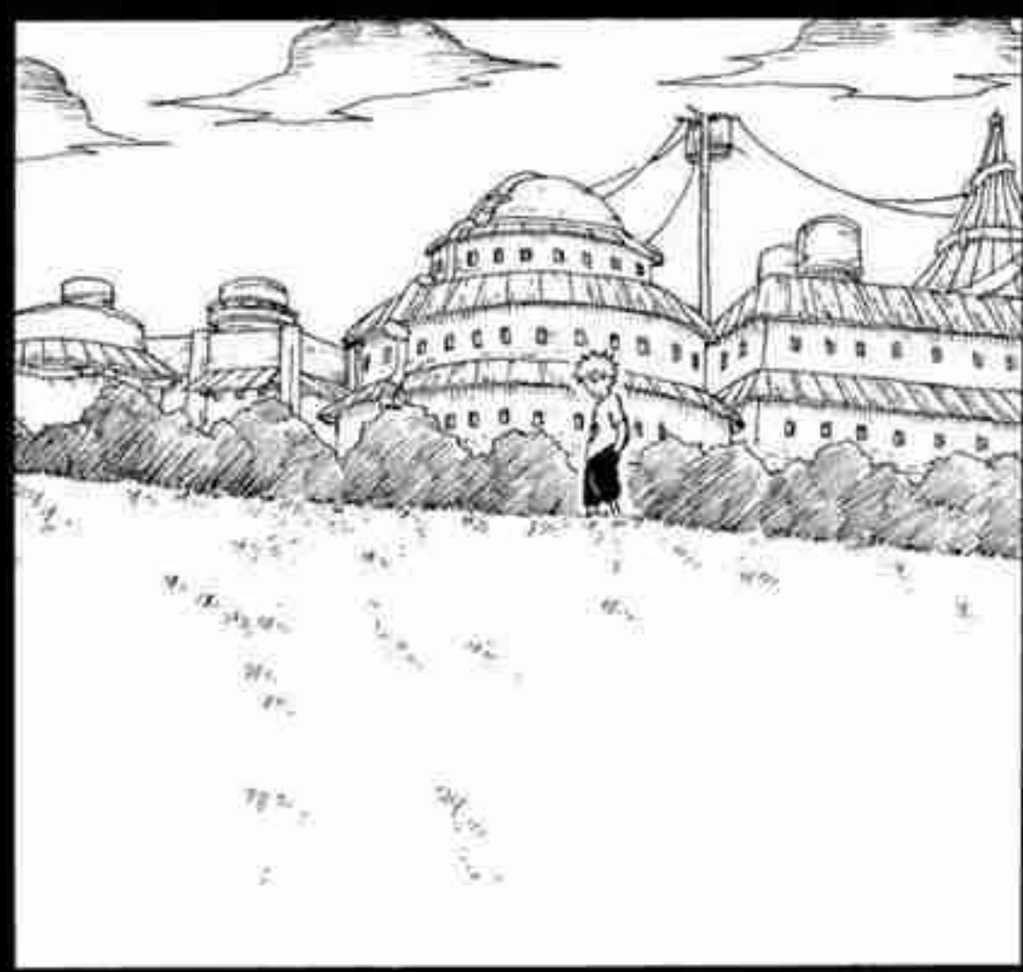


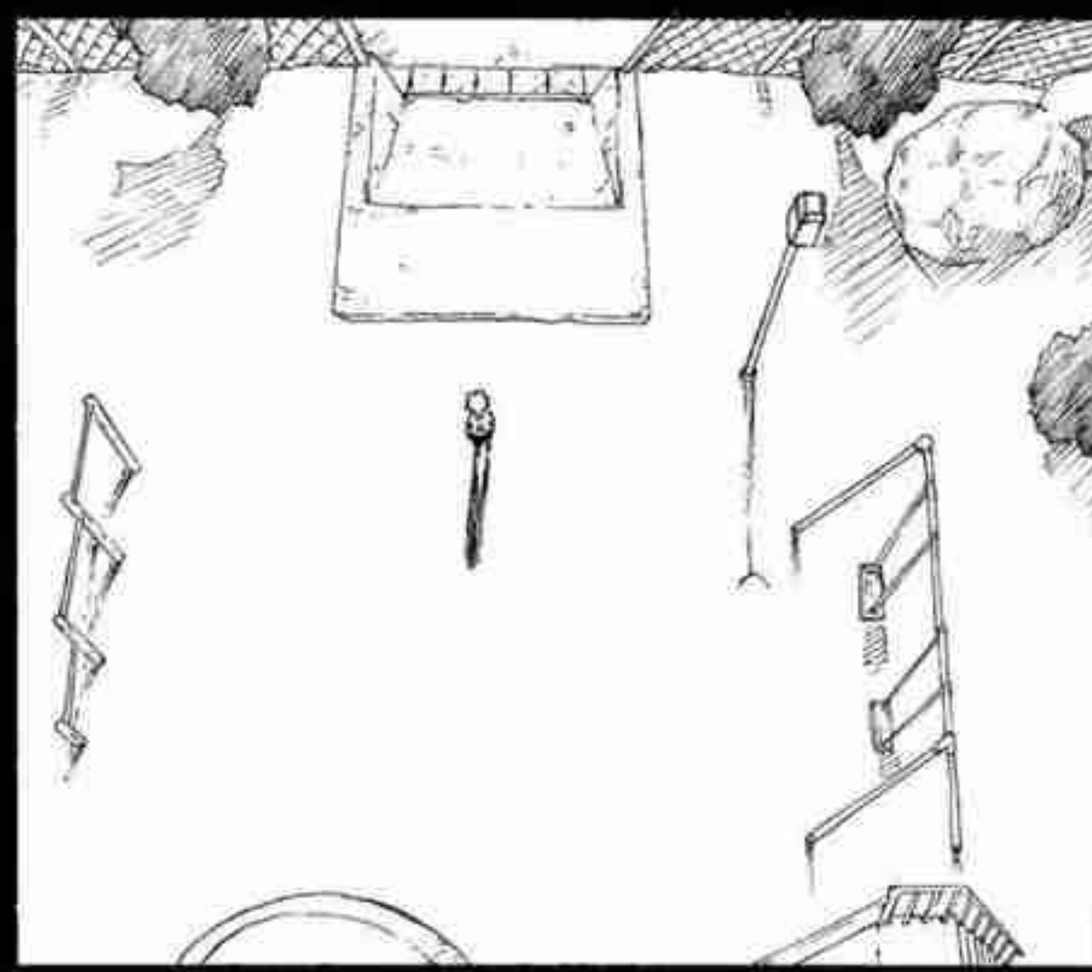
SASUKE.

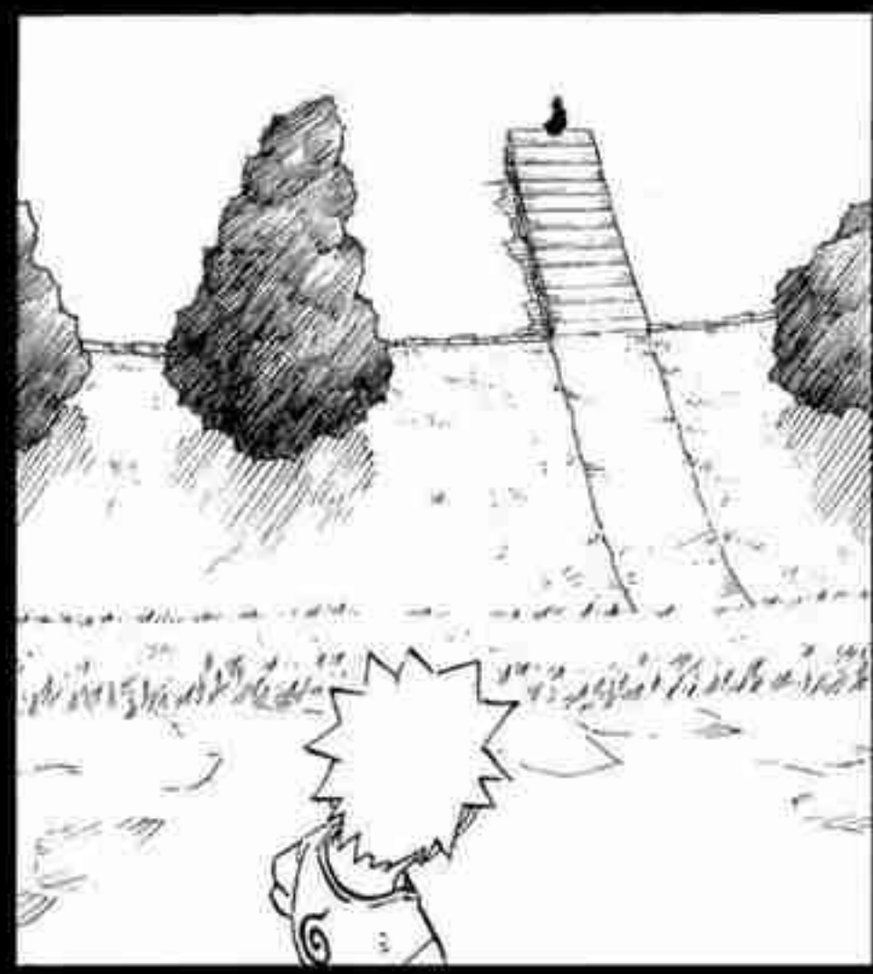
THAT WOULD MAKE ME SO STUPID.


I CAN'T HELP IT.
BUT...









!
I DON'T KNOW WHY.

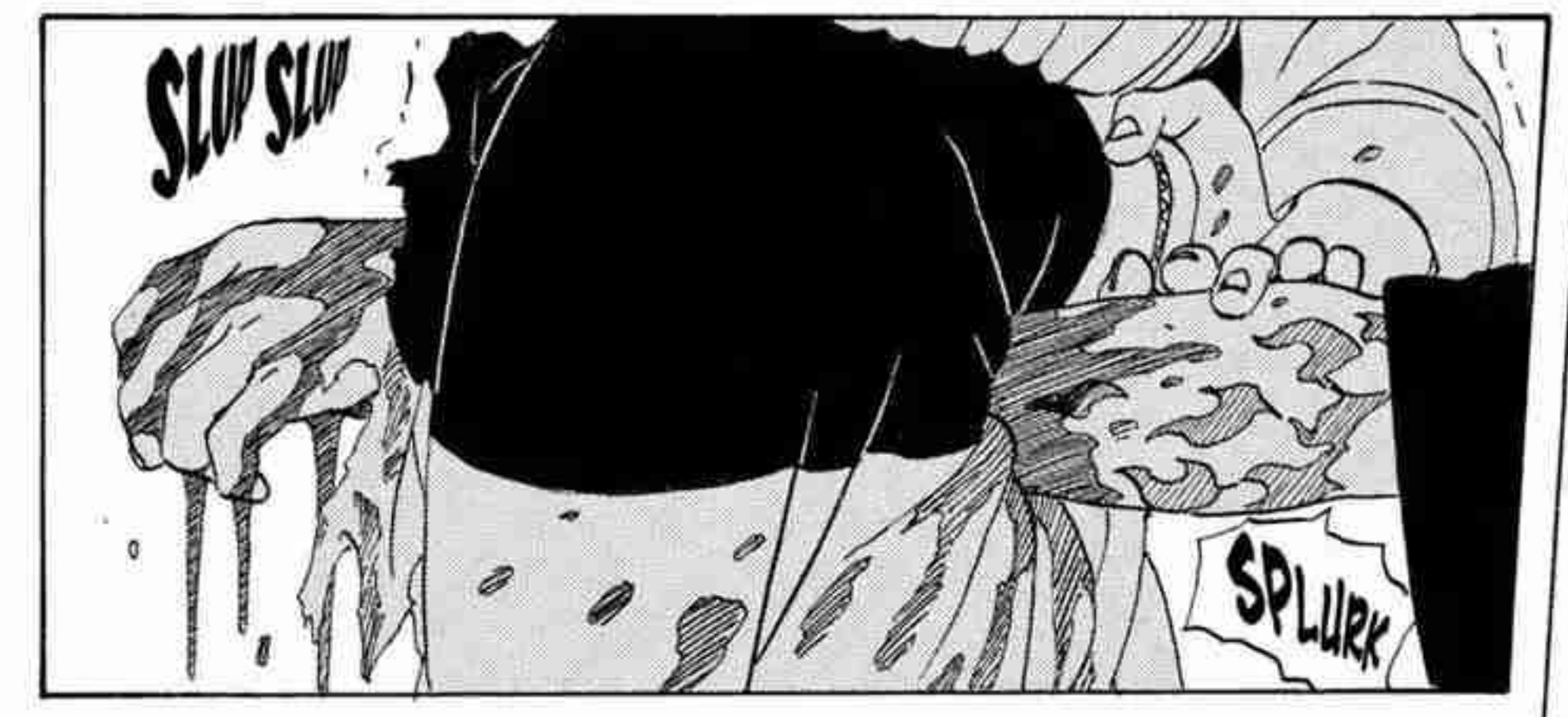
!

I GUESS IT'S JUST...
TEP
TEP

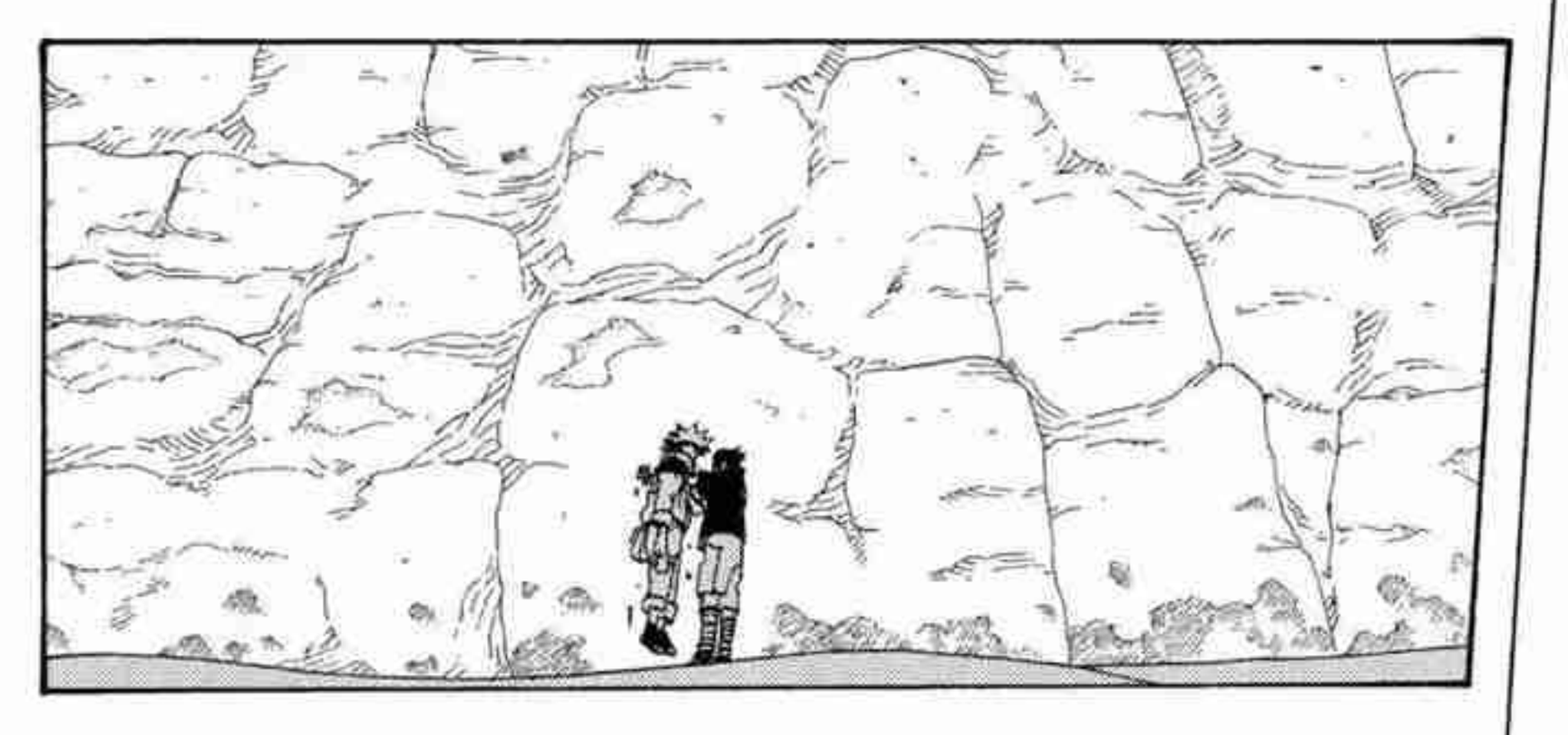
...

I DON'T WANT A THUG LIKE OROCHI-MARU TO RUIN YOU...

READ
THIS
WAY

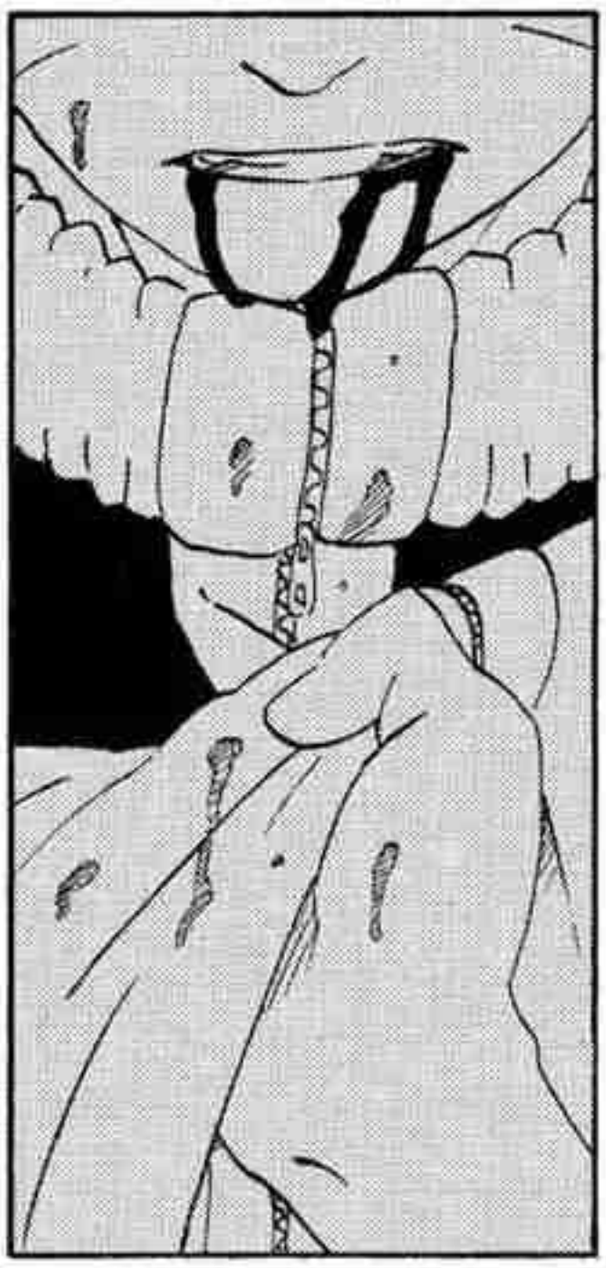

SLUP SLUP
SPLURK

STILL. DIDN'T HELP MUCH, DID IT?
SCHLUP
SO I MISSED YOUR HEART. NICE MOVE WITH YOUR HAND, THERE.

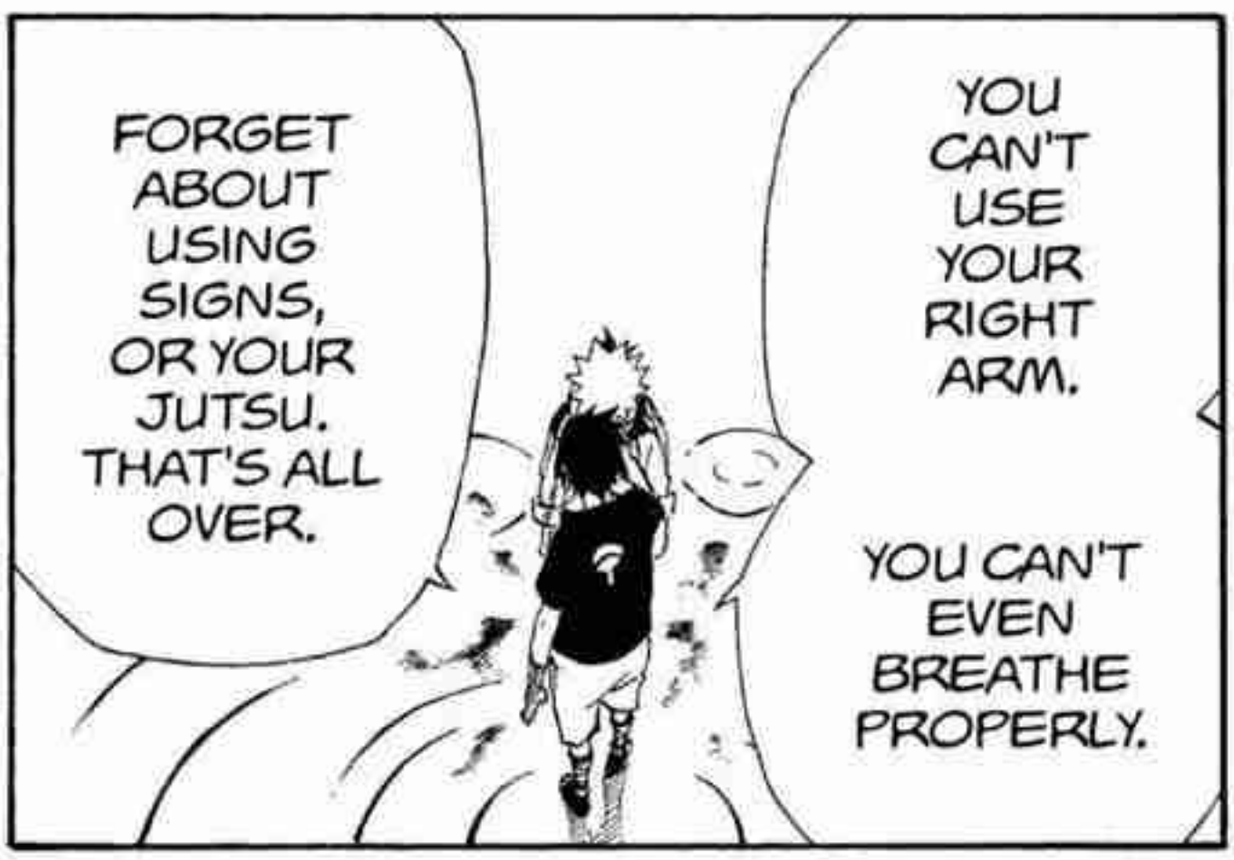


FWIW
SHLOP
YOU'RE STILL OUT A SHOULDER AND A LUNG.
MMGH

SPLUK



GLLLP
GLLLP
GLLLP


FORGET ABOUT USING SIGNS, OR YOUR JUTSU. THAT'S ALL OVER.
YOU CAN'T USE YOUR RIGHT ARM.
YOU CAN'T EVEN BREATHE PROPERLY.

CHUP

...

LIKE ME, YOU HAVE THE POWER TO AWAKEN THE MANGEKYO SHARINGAN.
BUT THERE'S A CATCH.

...YOUR CLOSEST FRIEND.
YOU MUST KILL...

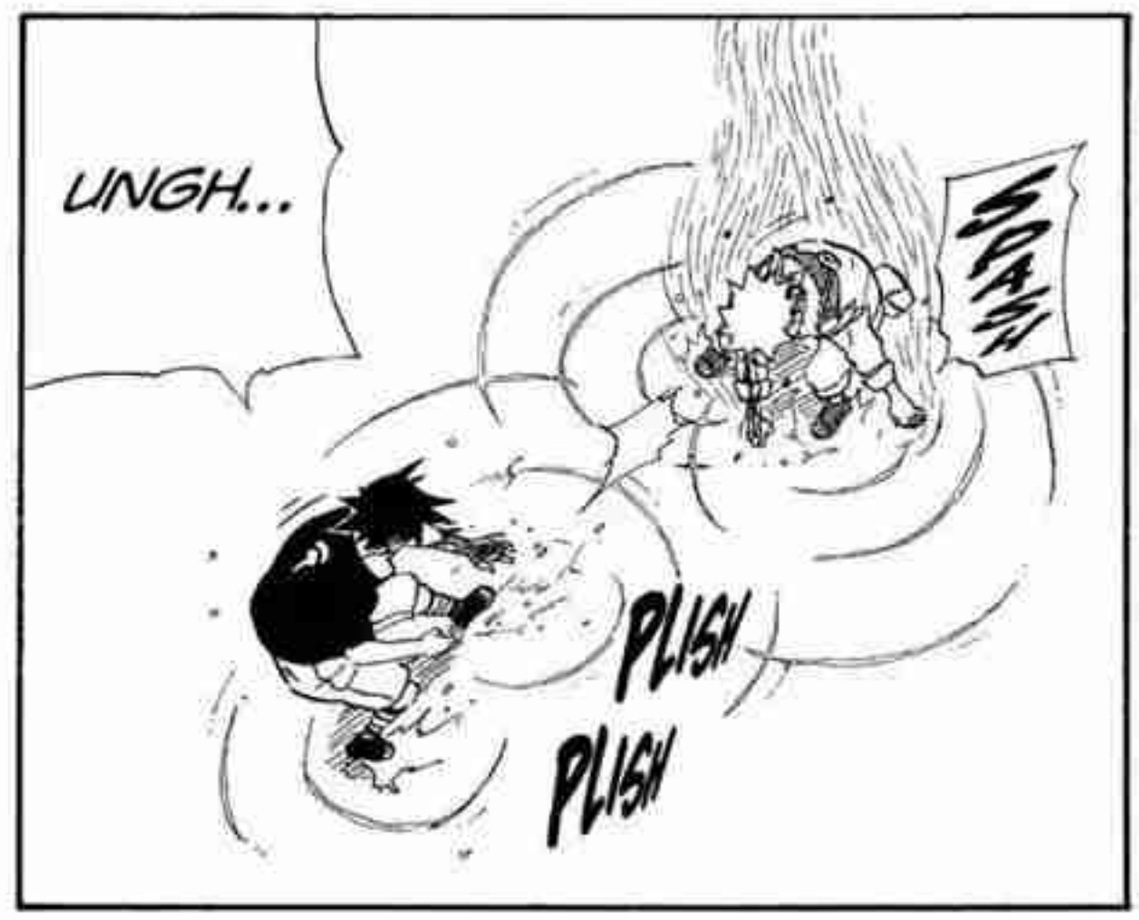
SNAP

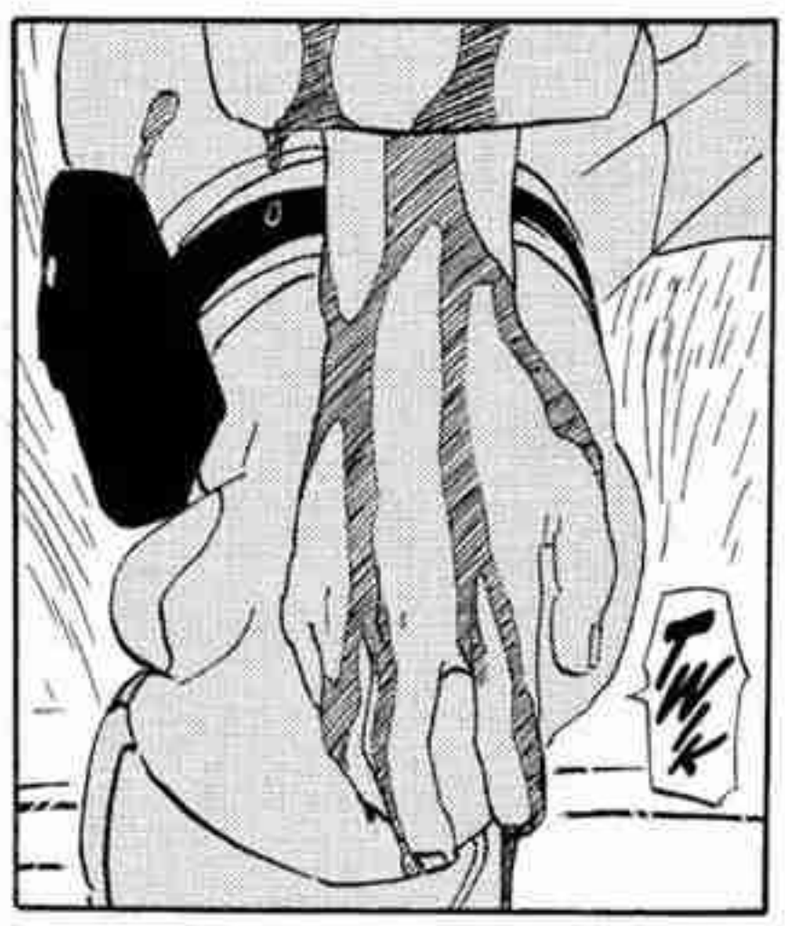
IT'S DONE...
MMF

NGAHH!!

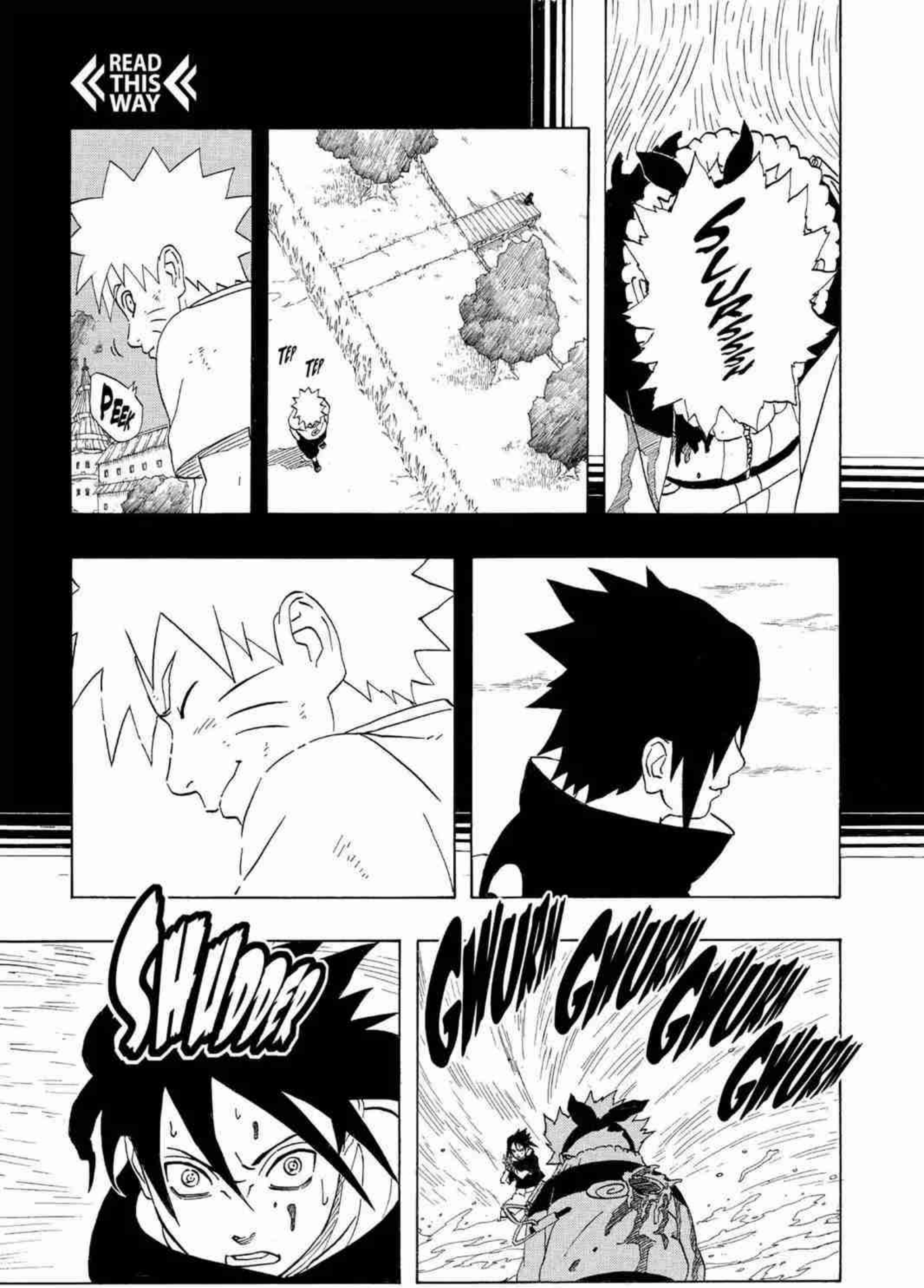
KRAK

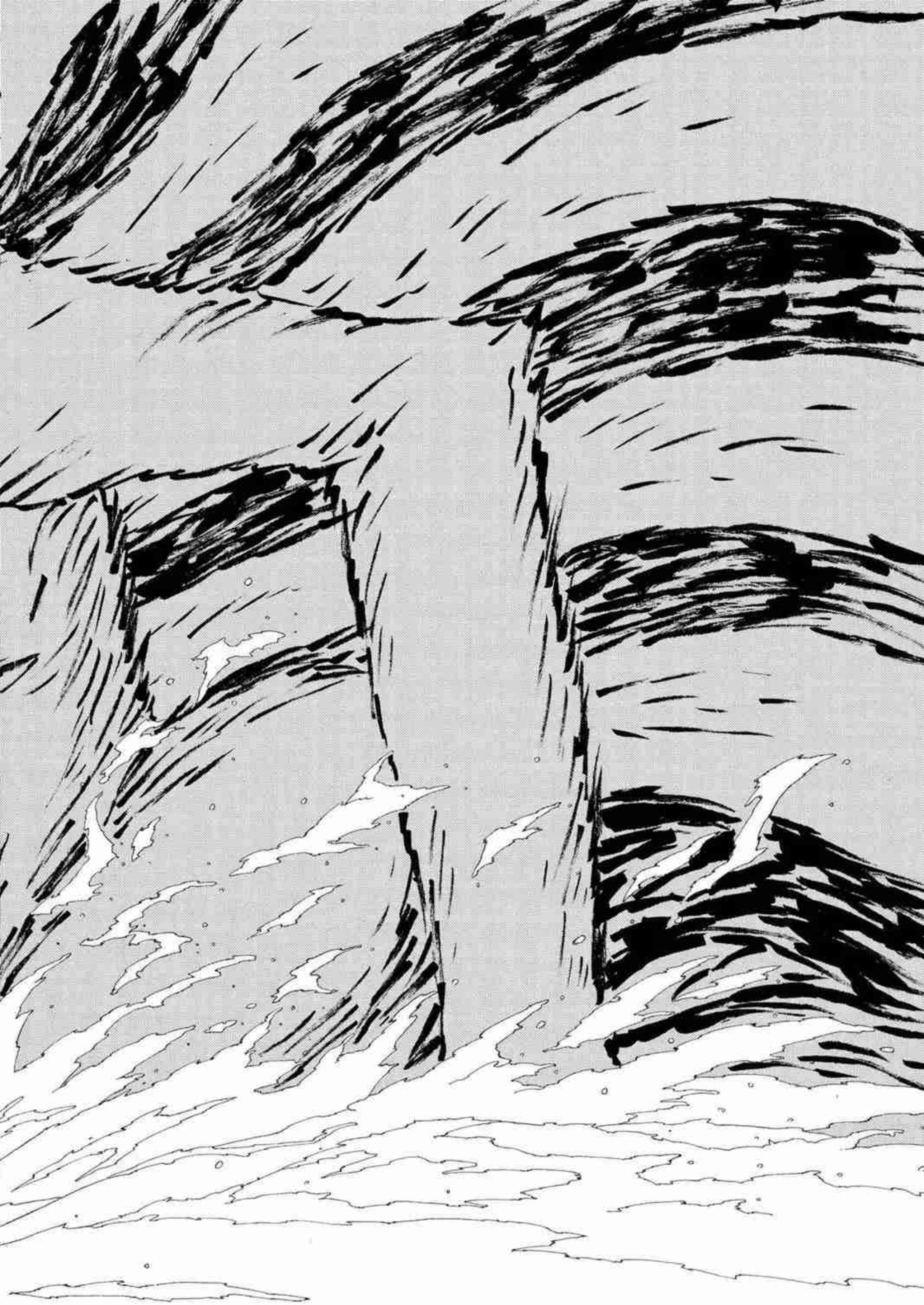
SHWOO


UNGH...
SPAM
PLISH
PLISH

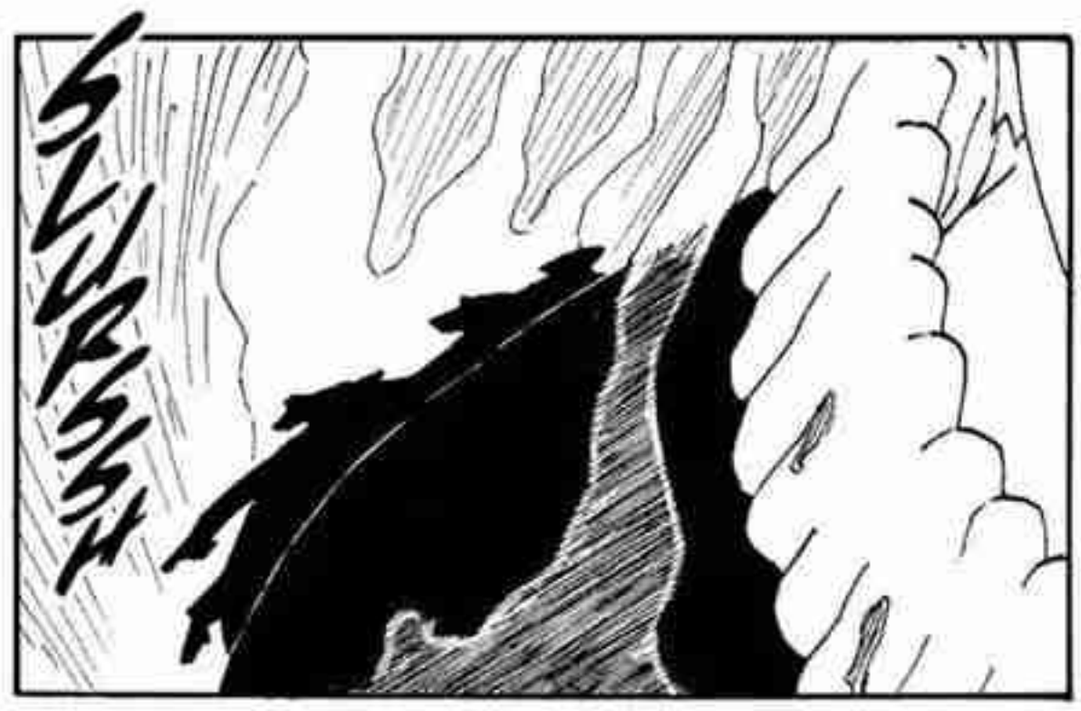

TWIK

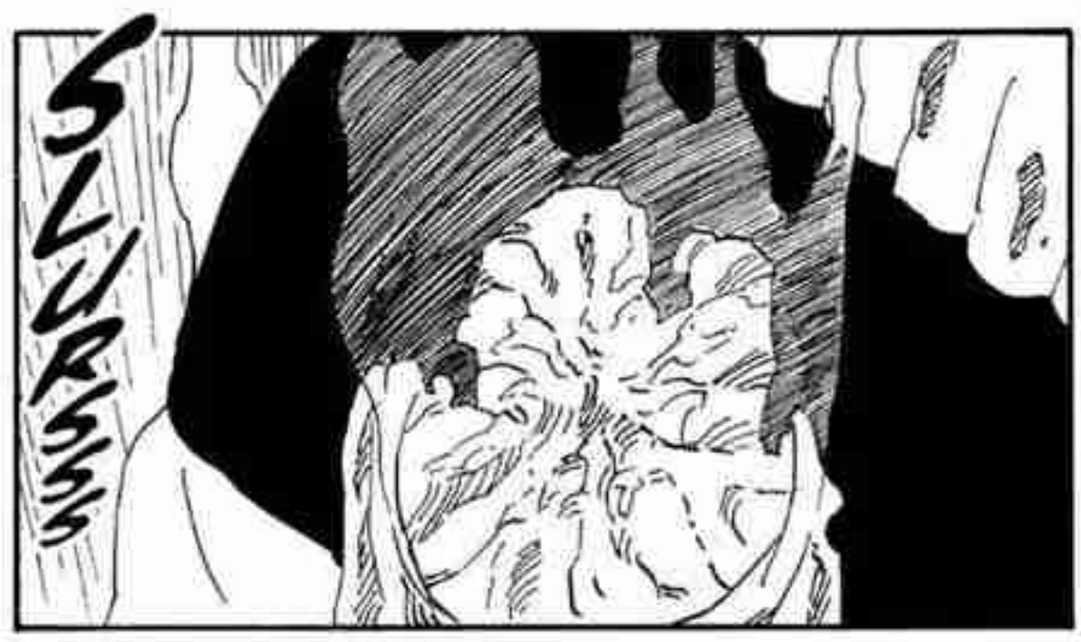
THAT POWER... WHERE DID IT COME FROM?!
WHAT...?! RED CHAKRA?


READ THIS WAY
PEEK
TEP
TEP
SLURPPP
SHIIIIIZZ
GHURN GHURN GHURN GHURN

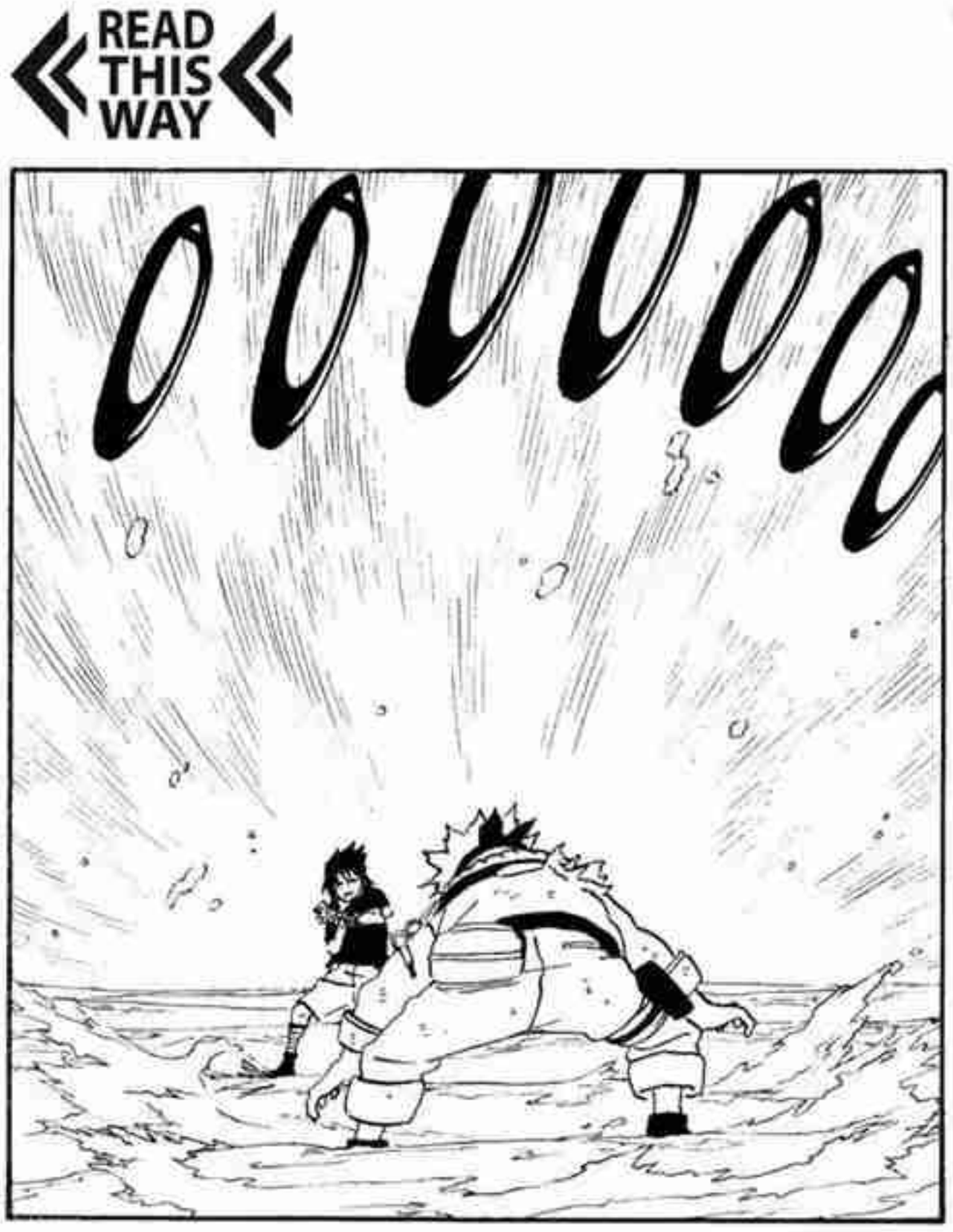


WHA... WHAT IN...
?!!


SLURSSSH

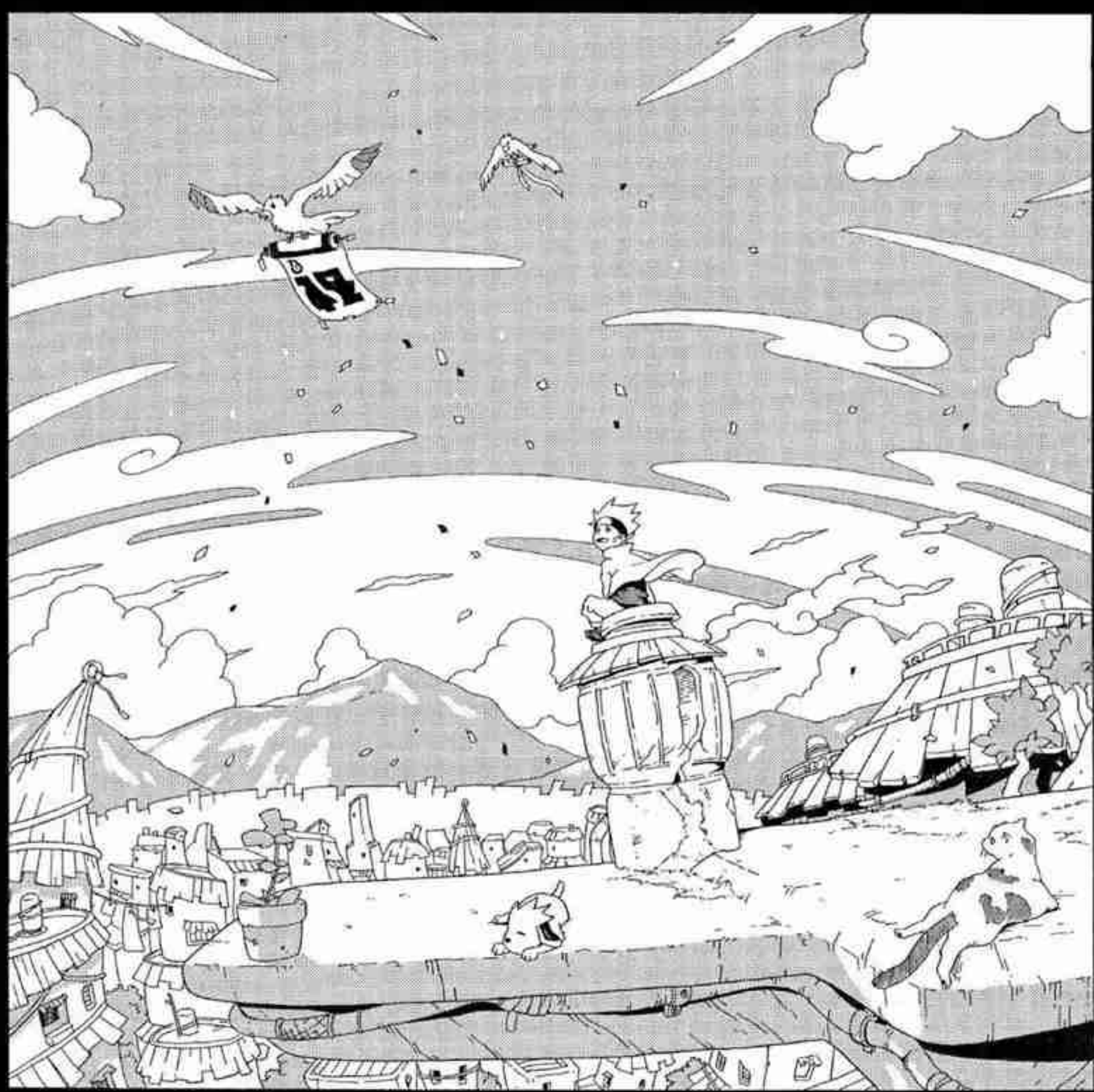

SLURSSSS

SSHH



WHAT...
HIS WOUND... HOW CAN IT HEAL...

SASUKE!
I'M GONNA BRING YOU HOME SAFE IF I HAVE TO BREAK EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY!!
OROCHI-MARU CAN'T HAVE YOU!
SKFF

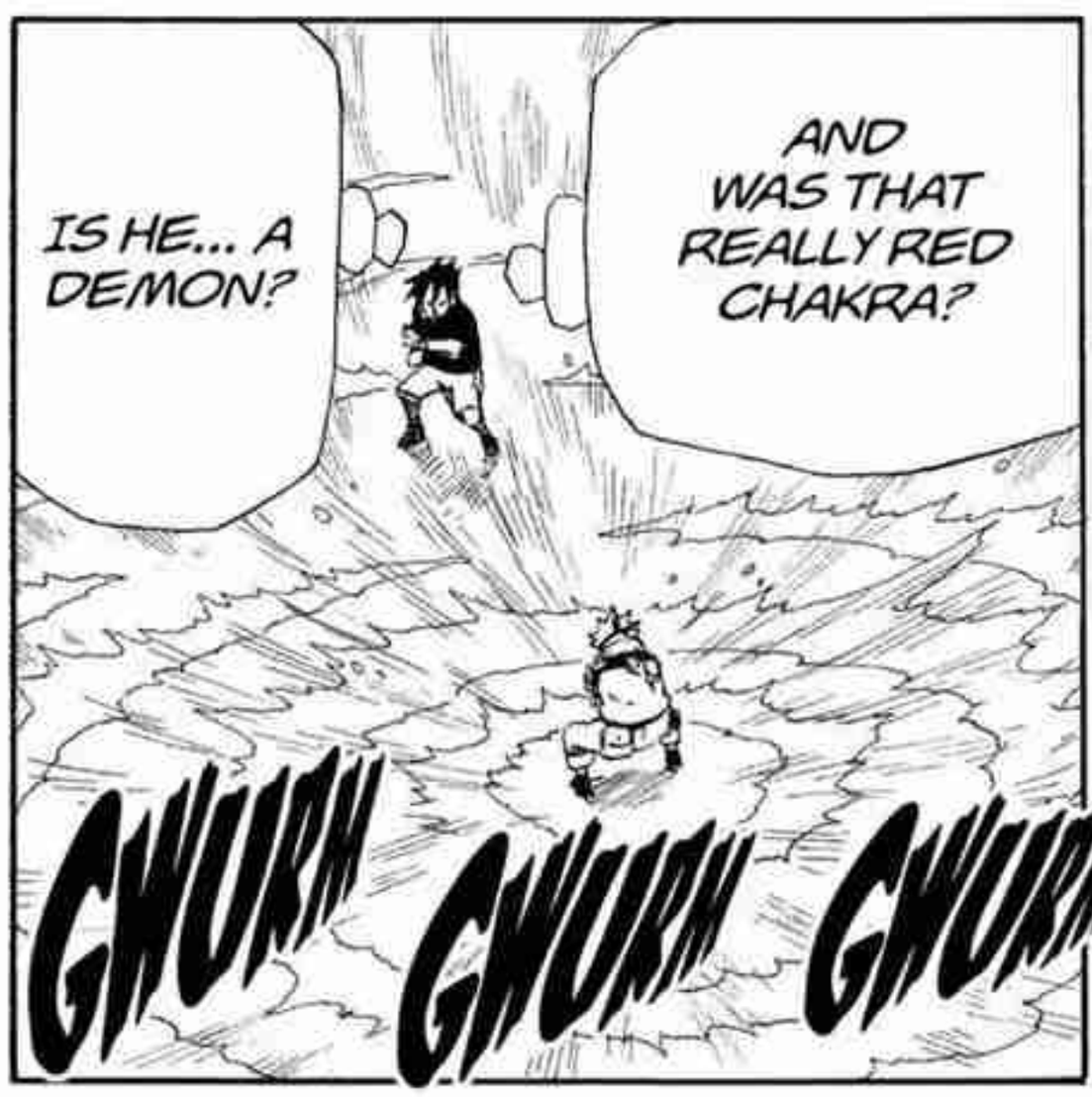


Akira Okubo, 11/8/2004

大久保彰

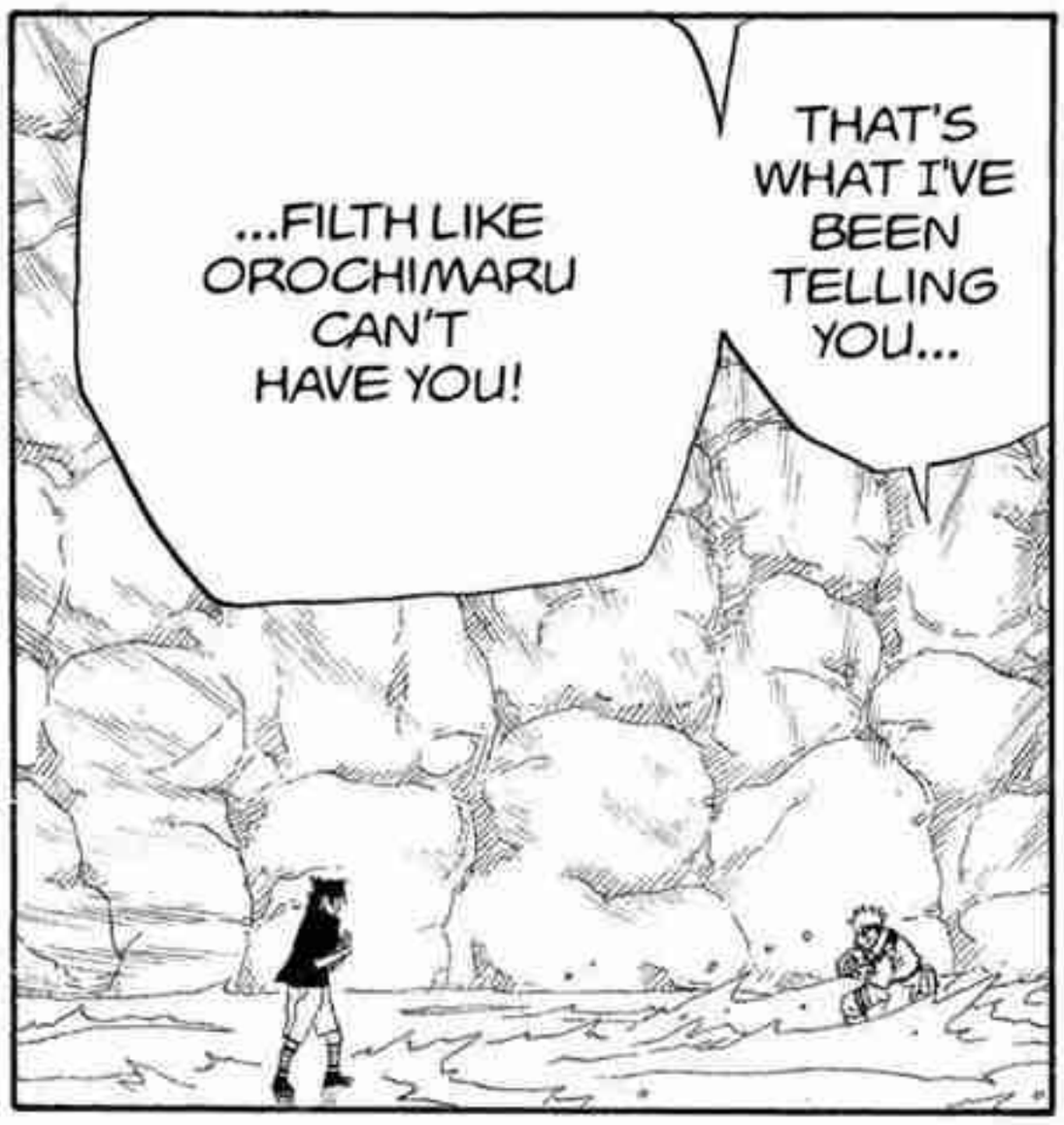
Mr. Kishimoto! Congratulations on the 5th anniversary of Naruto! Please stay healthy and keep up the good work!

Number 229: The Bond...!!



Number 229: The Bond...!!

YOUR FRIEND.



...
THUD

AND THAT'S WHY I'M GONNA STOP YOU...
...IF I HAVE TO BREAK YOUR EVERY LIMB!!

!!
SHIN

RAAAGH!!
SKR
AK
WSSH

SHASH

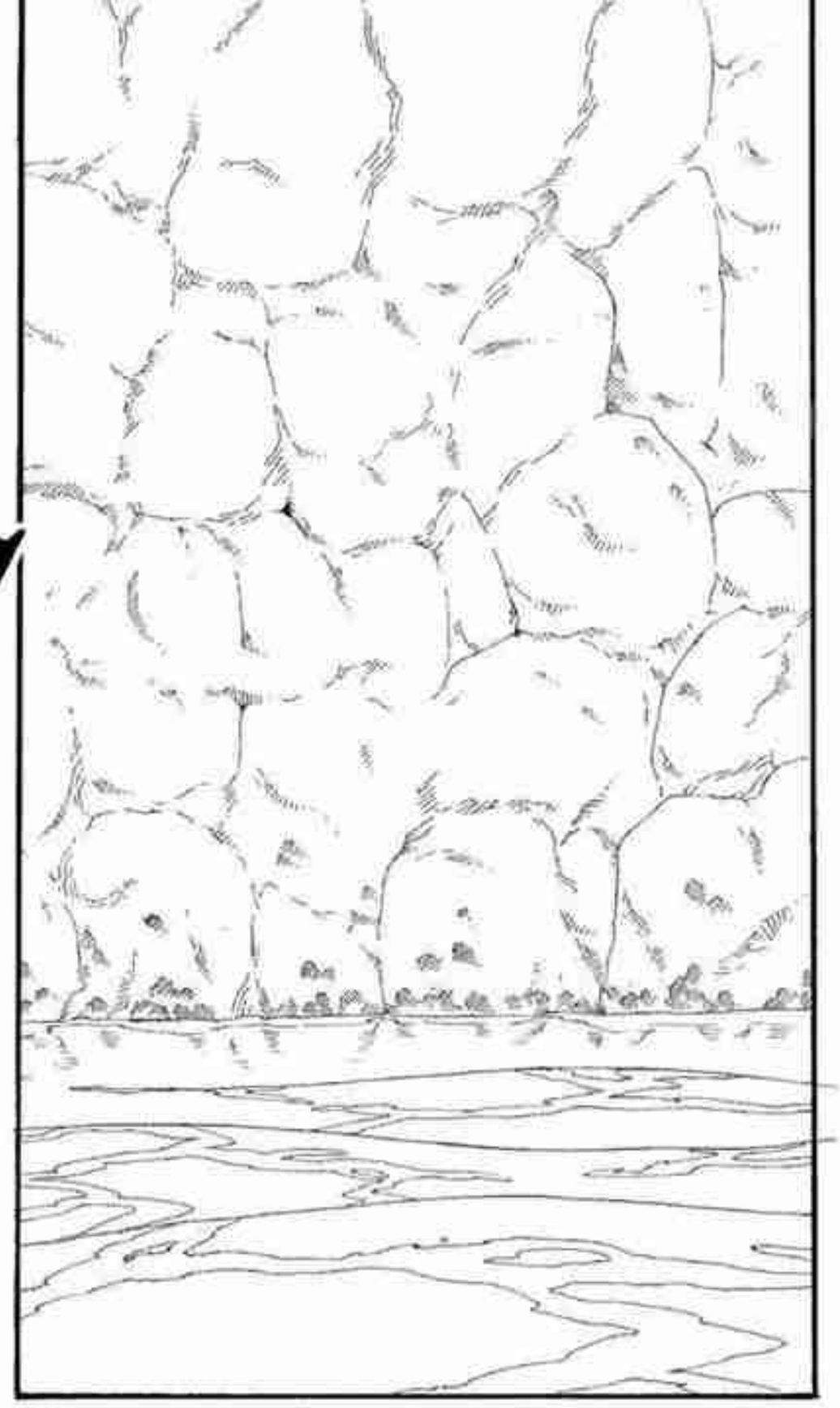
OH!
FIREBALL TECHNIQUE!!
OOF
FWUMM
KWAHH!!
GAHH!!
SPO SSH

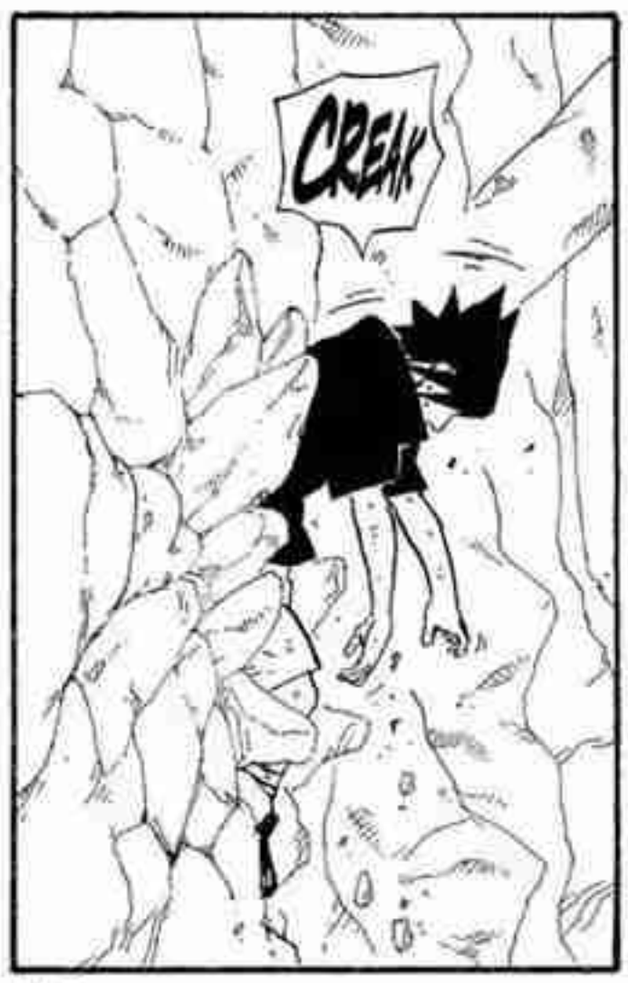
WHAT?! HE'S... SO FAST...
!!

NO WAY...
WITH JUST HIS CHAKRA?
BUB BUB BUB

FUMP
FUMP
FUMP

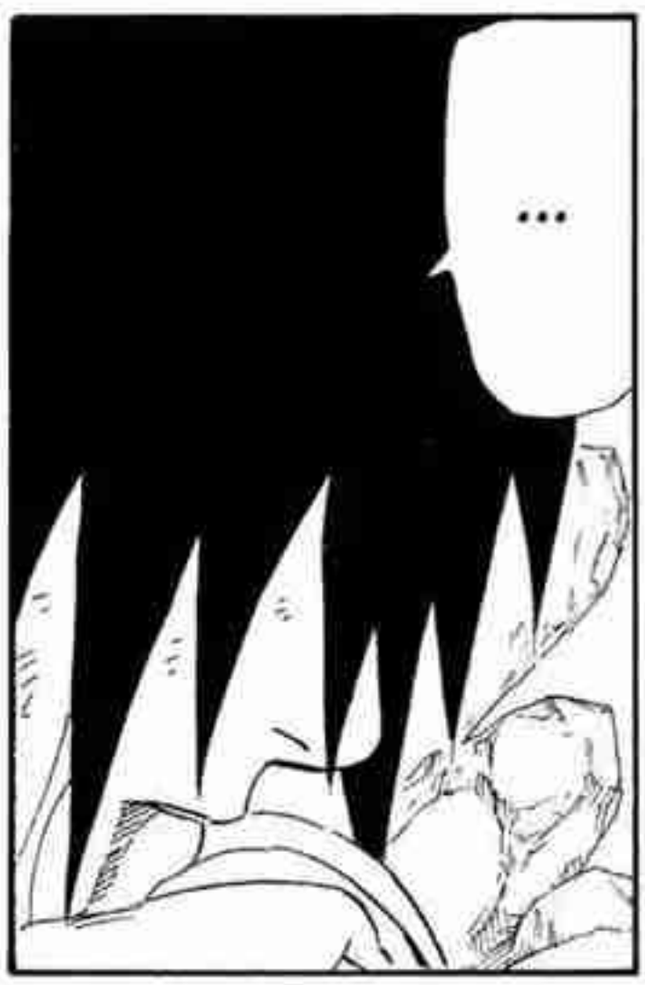
FWOOSH




CREAK

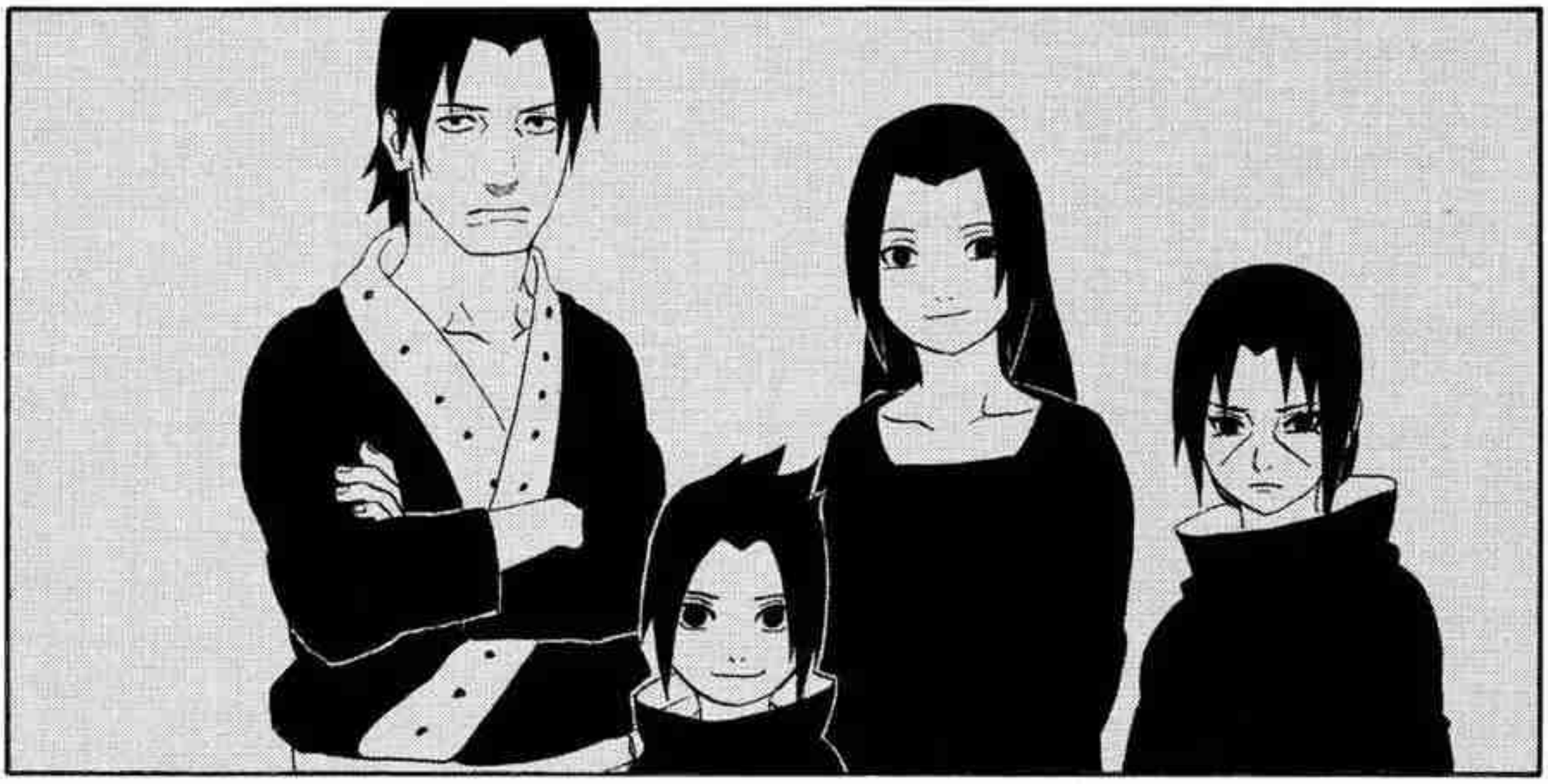
SHA
KK

FFA
HAAA
IF YOU DON'T, I WILL CRUSH YOU...
AND WHEN YOU'RE MANGLED ENOUGH TO STOP, I'LL DRAG YOU HOME.
YOU HAVE TO WAKE UP!
PLIK
PLIK


...

...!

HEH HEH...
HEH...



WHAT CAN YOU POSSIBLY KNOW ABOUT ME?
YOU'VE GOT NO PARENTS, NO BROTHERS ...

...?!

YOU CRACK ME UP...
...

WHAT CAN YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?!

YOU WERE ALONE TO BEGIN WITH!!

HUNH ?!!

HOW COULD YOU EVER KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO *LOSE* ANYTHING!!

THIS PAIN IS BORN FROM MY FAMILY BONDS!

KLUD

UMK!

...!

PLIK
PLIK

SKRRRT

IT'S TRUE, I DON'T KNOW A THING...
...ABOUT HAVING BROTHERS, OR REAL PARENTS.

HUF
HUF
HUF

...

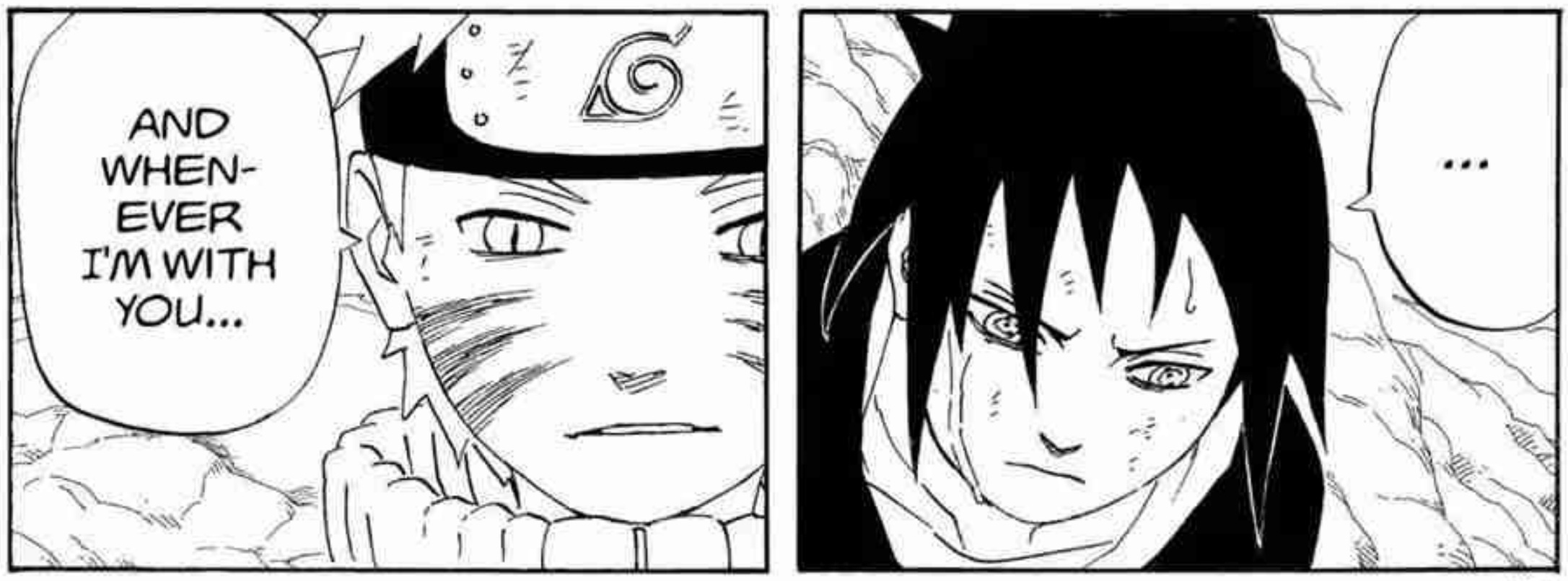
FINE. JUST DON'T GET CRAZY AND OVER-STUFF IT!
A SHINOBI'S GOTTA HAVE A FULL STOMACH!

BUT...
WHENEVER I'M WITH MASTER IRUKA, I KIND OF GET THE PICTURE...

I THINK... NO, I IMAGINE...

HE'S KIND OF LIKE A FATHER.

...



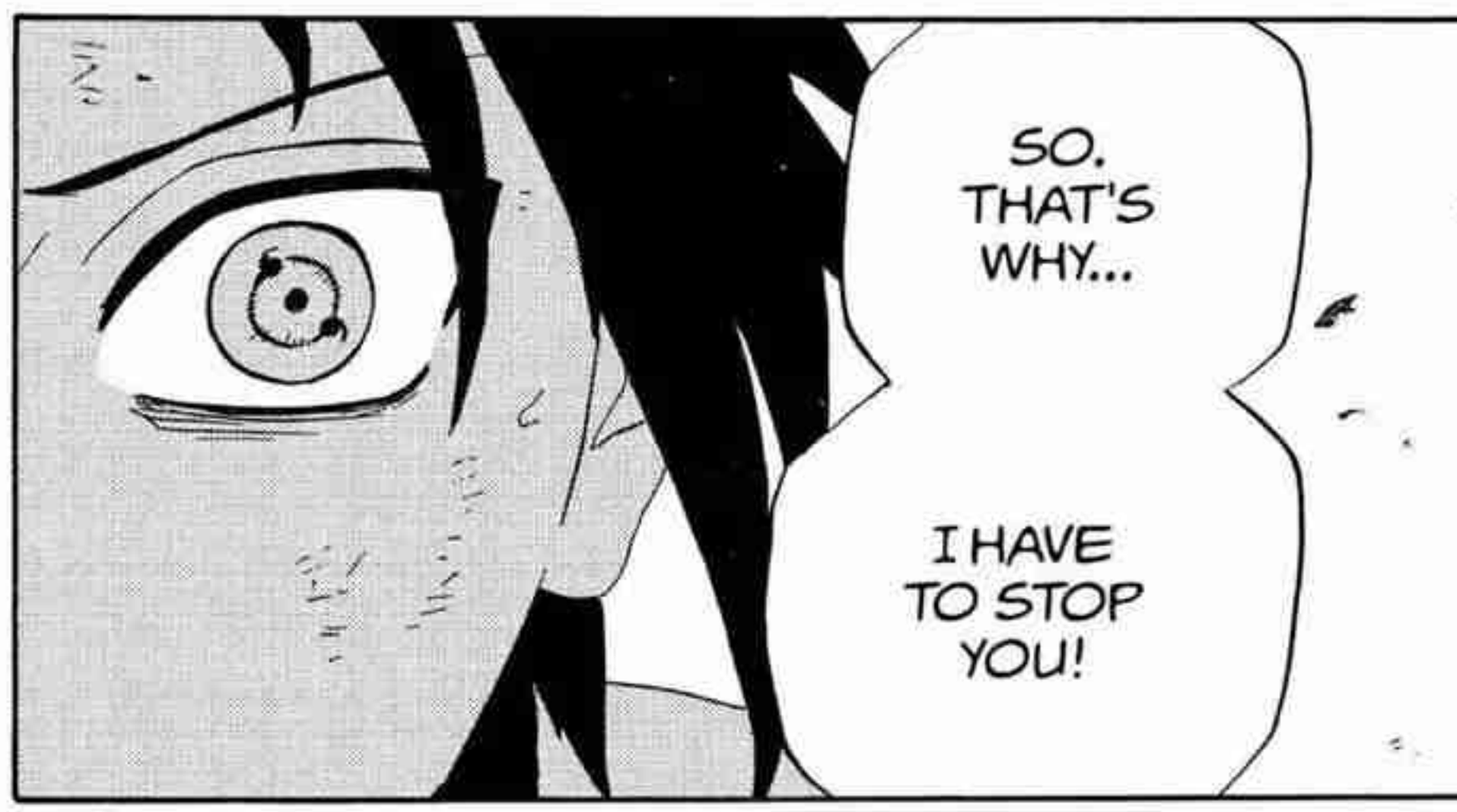
READ THIS WAY
HAH! WHAT D'YA SAY TO THAT?!
HMPH!
YOU'LL NEVER BEAT ME!!
SAY WHAT YOU WANT...
YOU STUPID IDIOT!
YOU'RE THE IDIOT!
...
...

I IMAGINE... MAYBE THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE A BROTHER.

READ THIS WAY
...
WHY?
...
!
WHY DO YOU WASTE SO MUCH EFFORT ON... ME?
...

YOU WERE PART OF MY FAMILY.

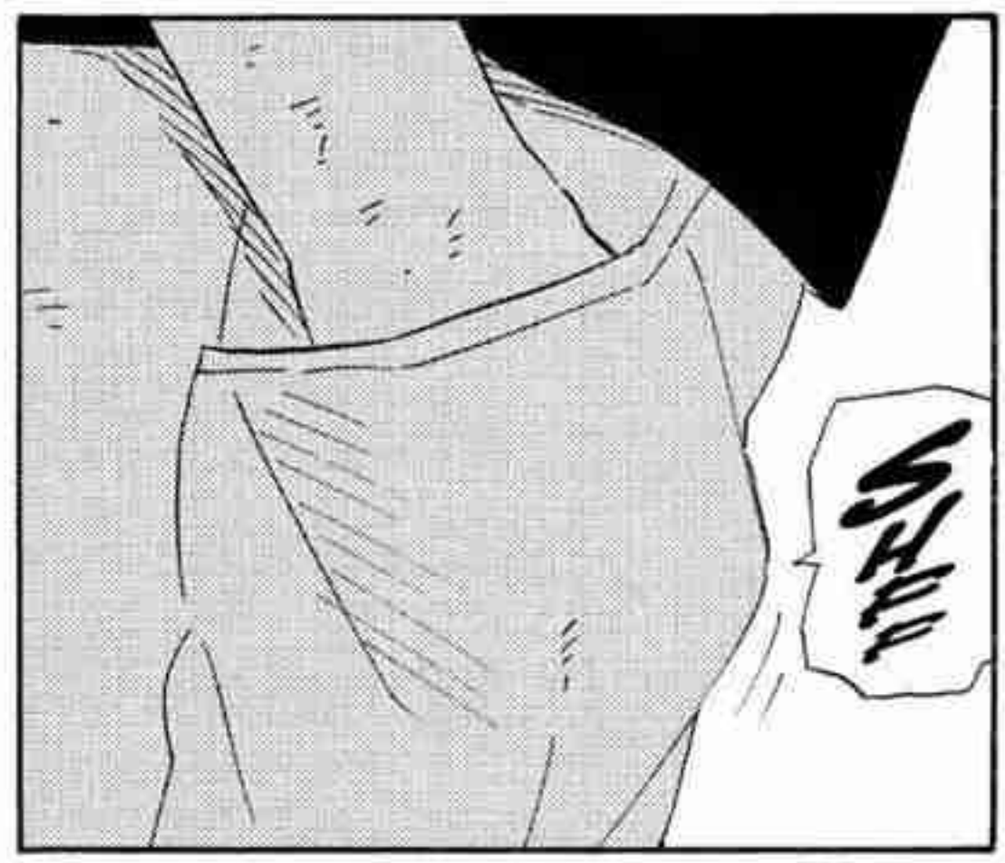
BECAUSE... FOR ME...



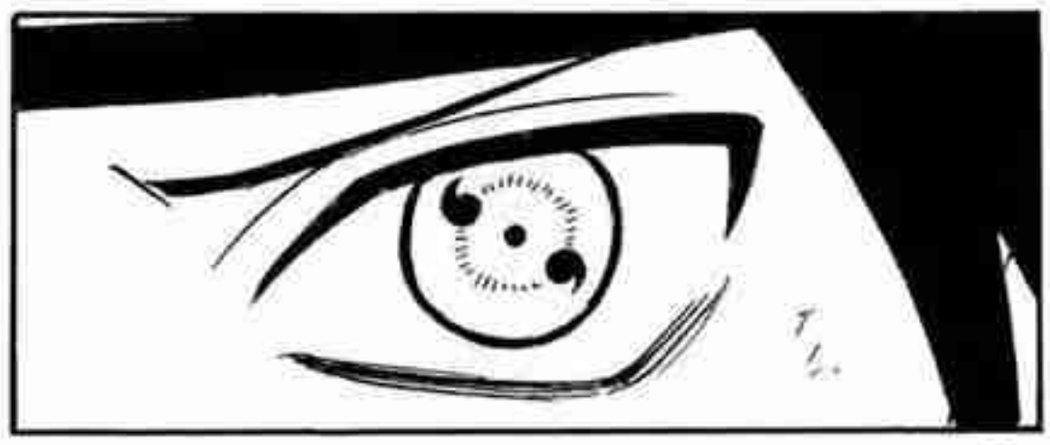
SHKK

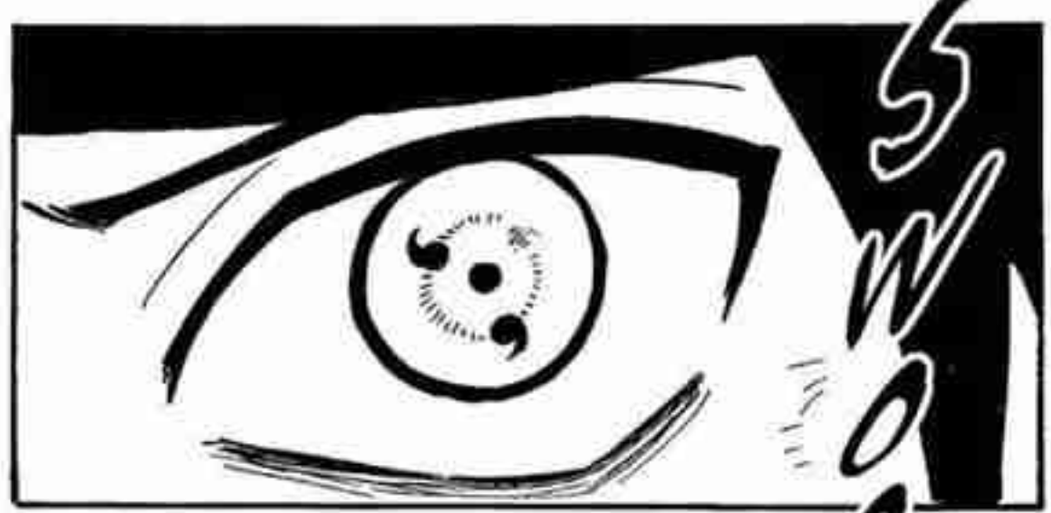
...

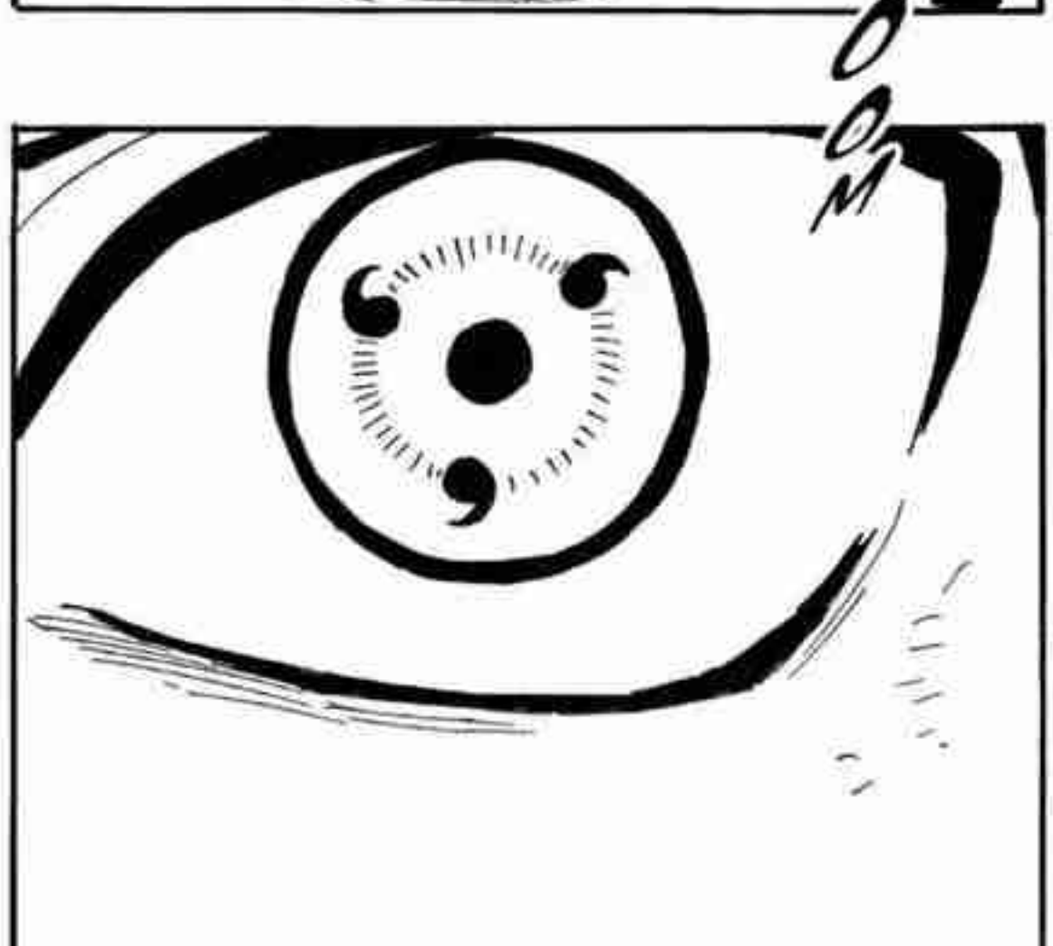
...!

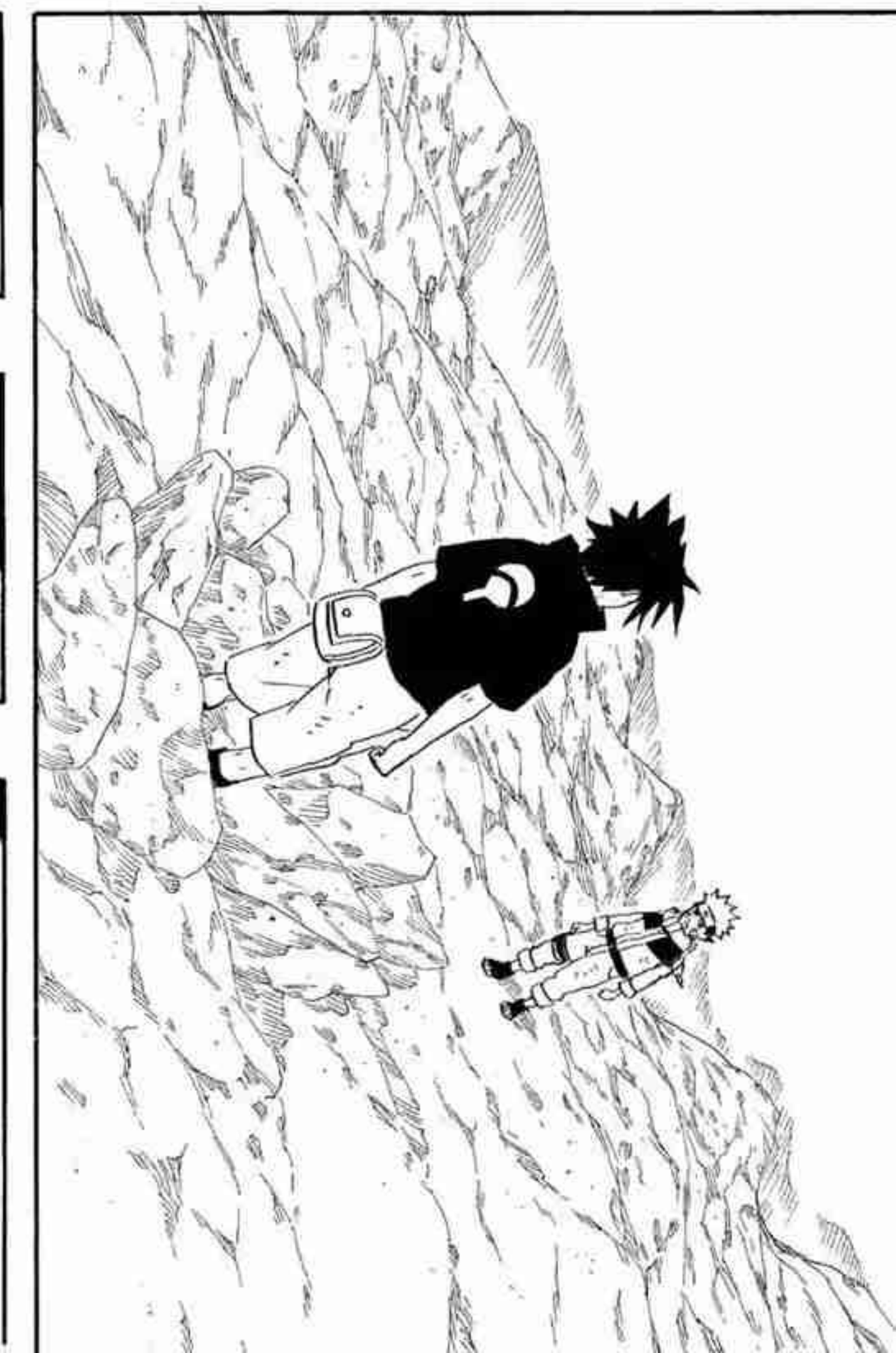

SHIIII

SKRUNK




SWOOM





BRING IT ON, NARUTO.

...!

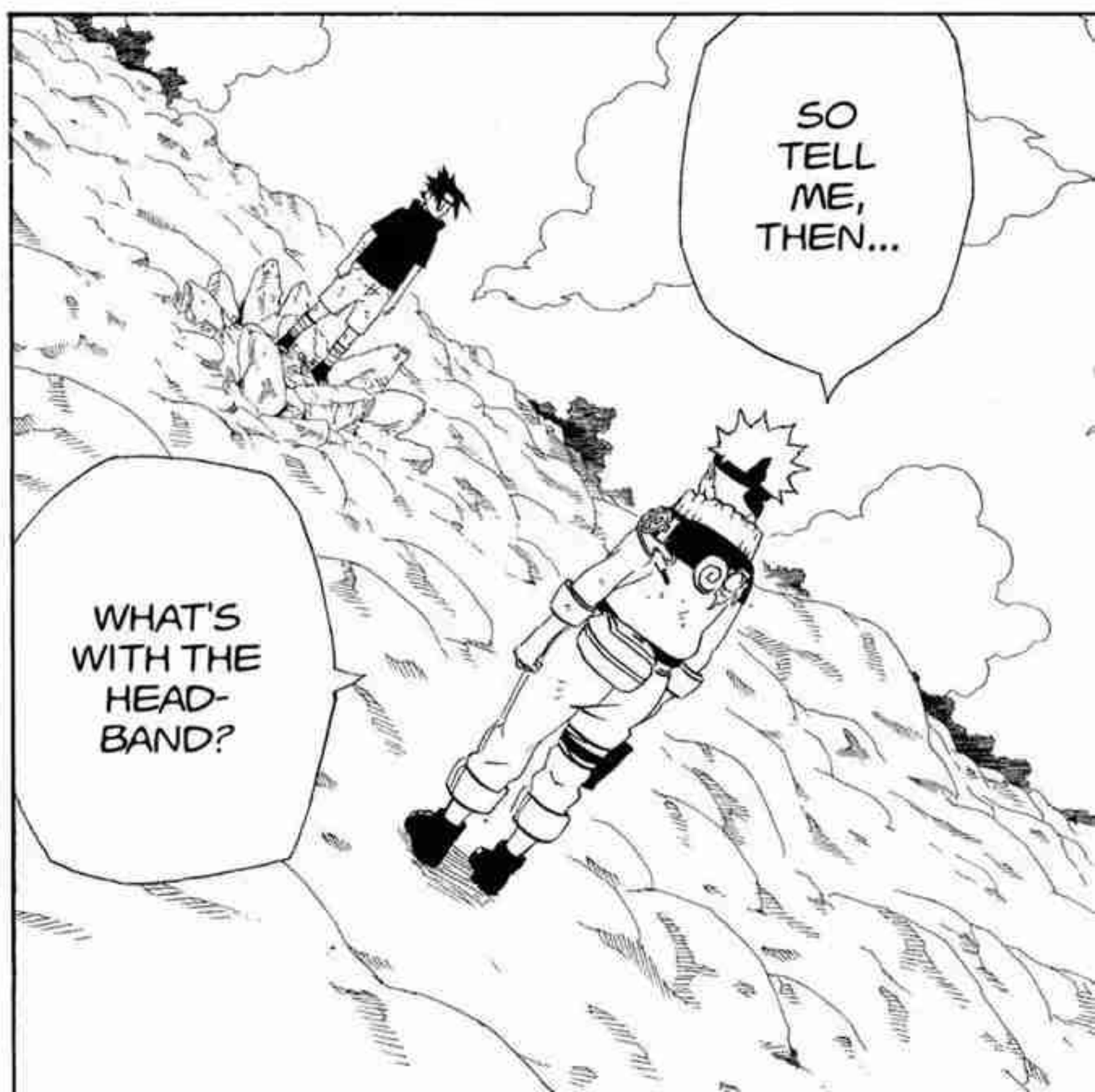
...IS SEVER THAT BOND!
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, THEN ALL I HAVE TO DO...

ANNIVERSARY
th
04.11.08
田坂亮
Ryô Tasaka

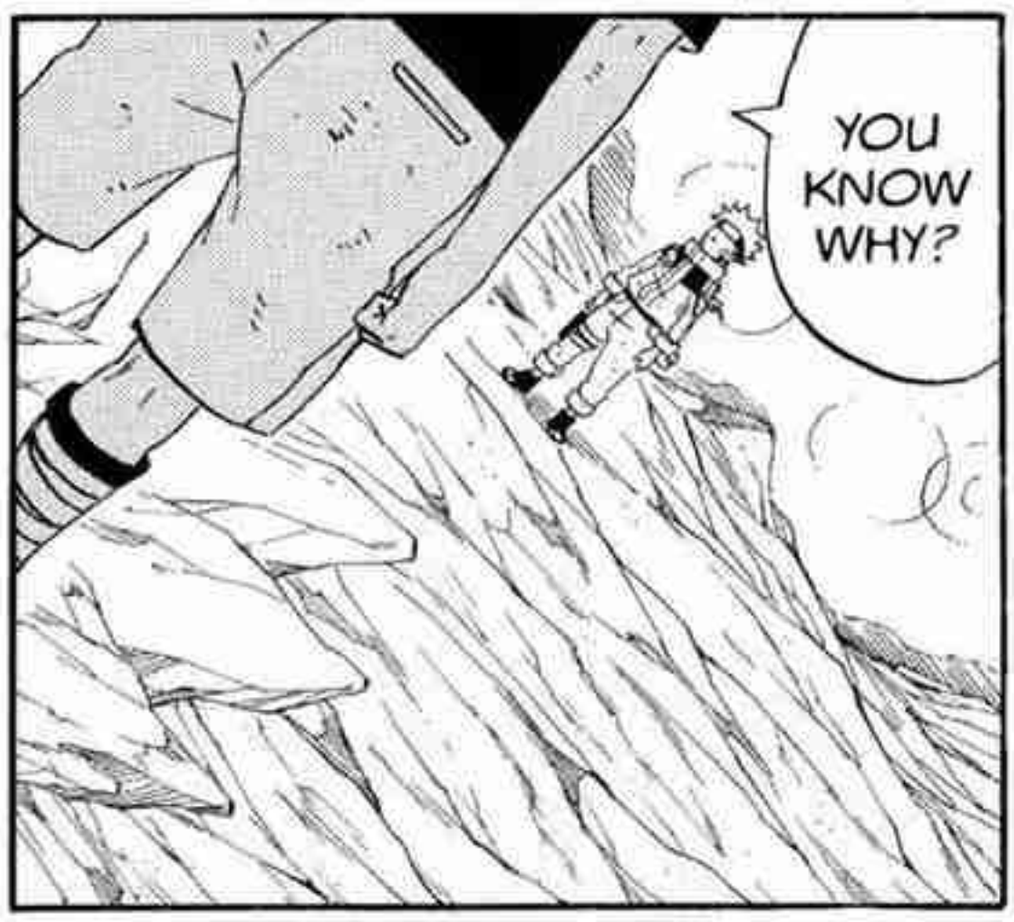
Number 230: Awakening!!

...

SEVER THE BOND?


SO TELL ME, THEN...
WHAT'S WITH THE HEAD-BAND?

YOU'RE STRONG.
I'LL SAY IT.


YOU KNOW WHY?

...!

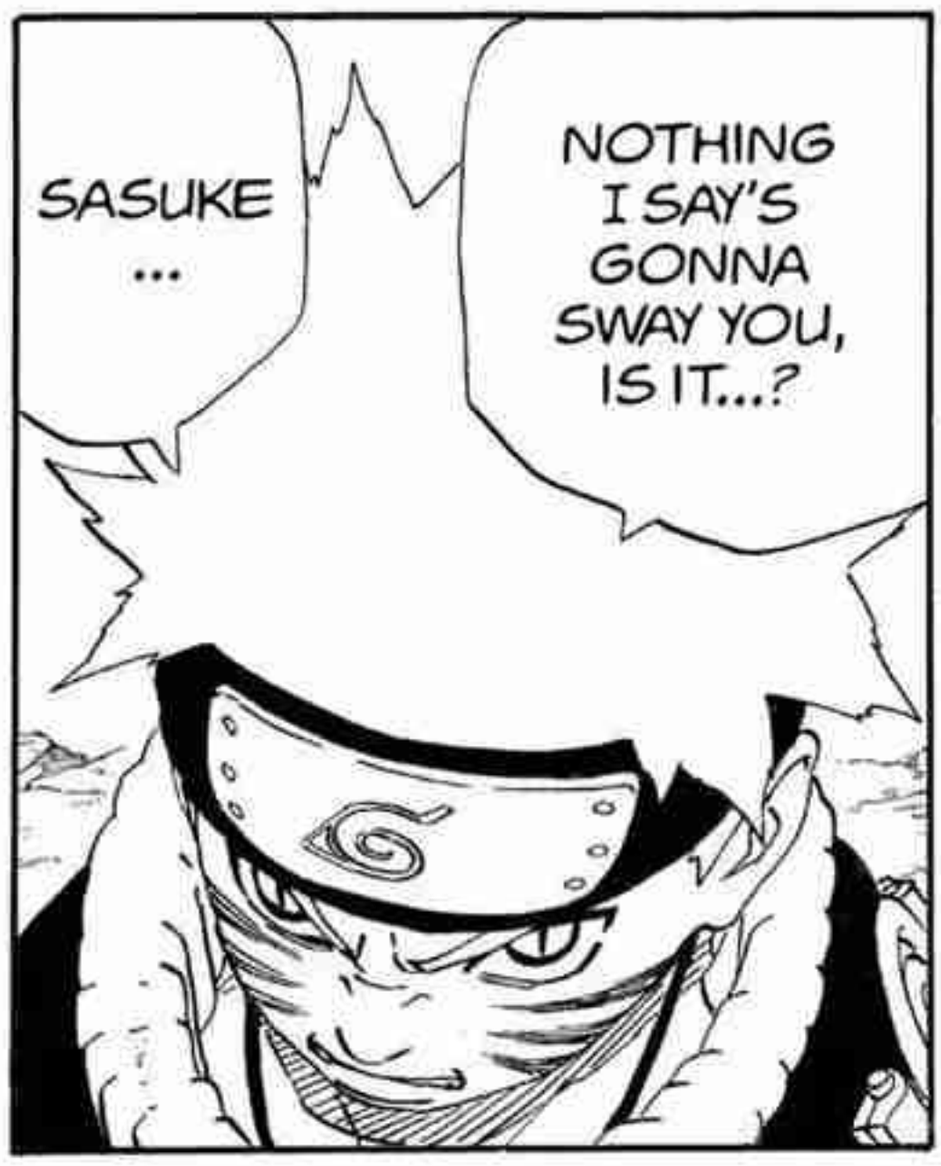
PAIN IS WHAT MAKES PEOPLE STRONG.
AND...

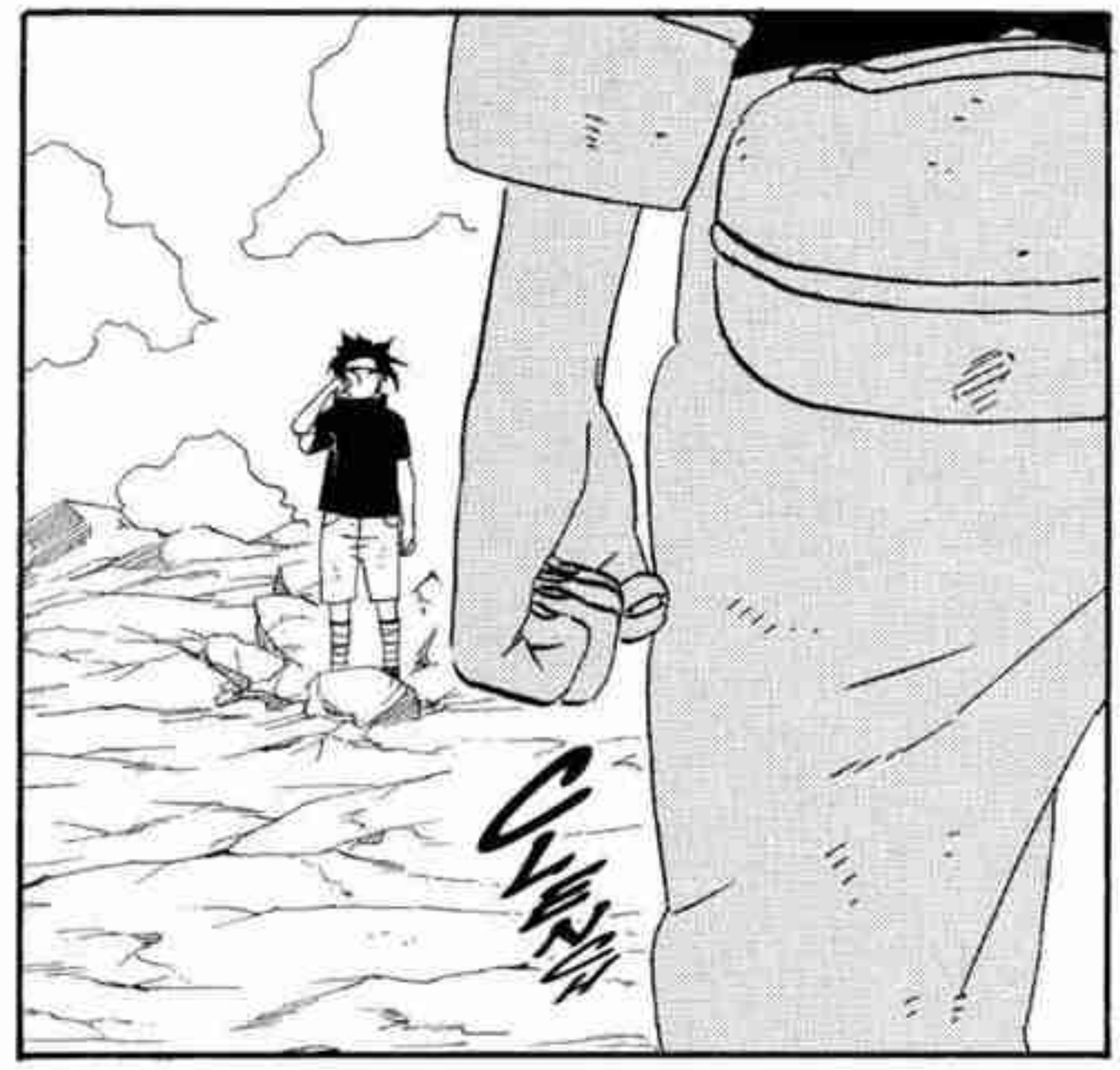
...

YOU FEEL THE PAIN OF BEING ALONE.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE LIKE ME.

IF I CUT OUR BOND...

I WILL BECOME STRONGER. MUCH STRONGER.

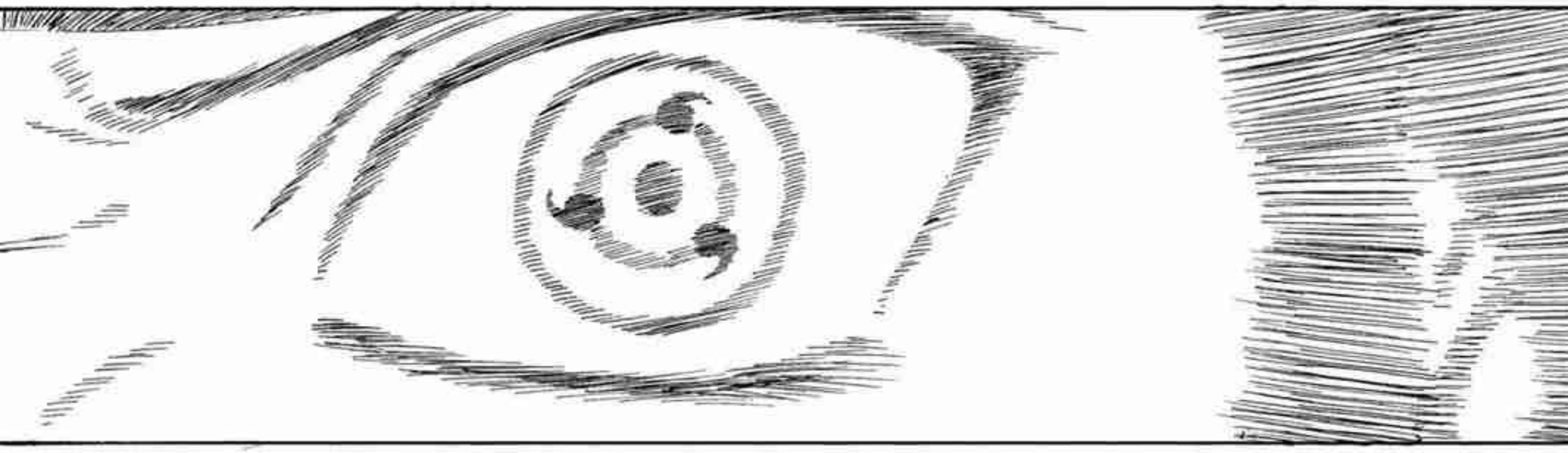

SASUKE ...
NOTHING I SAY'S GONNA SWAY YOU, IS IT...?


CLENCH

YEAH, WE'RE DONE CHATTING. ALL WE HAVE LEFT...
...IS THE FIGHT.

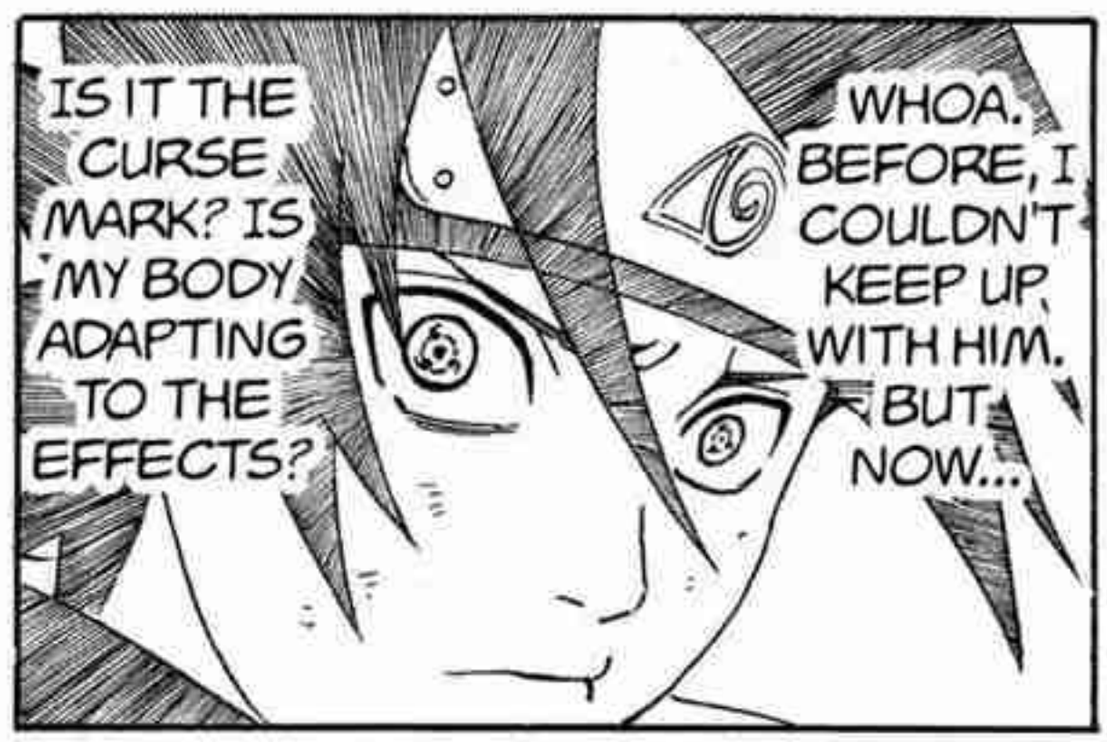
TAK

SO I SAID BRING IT ON.

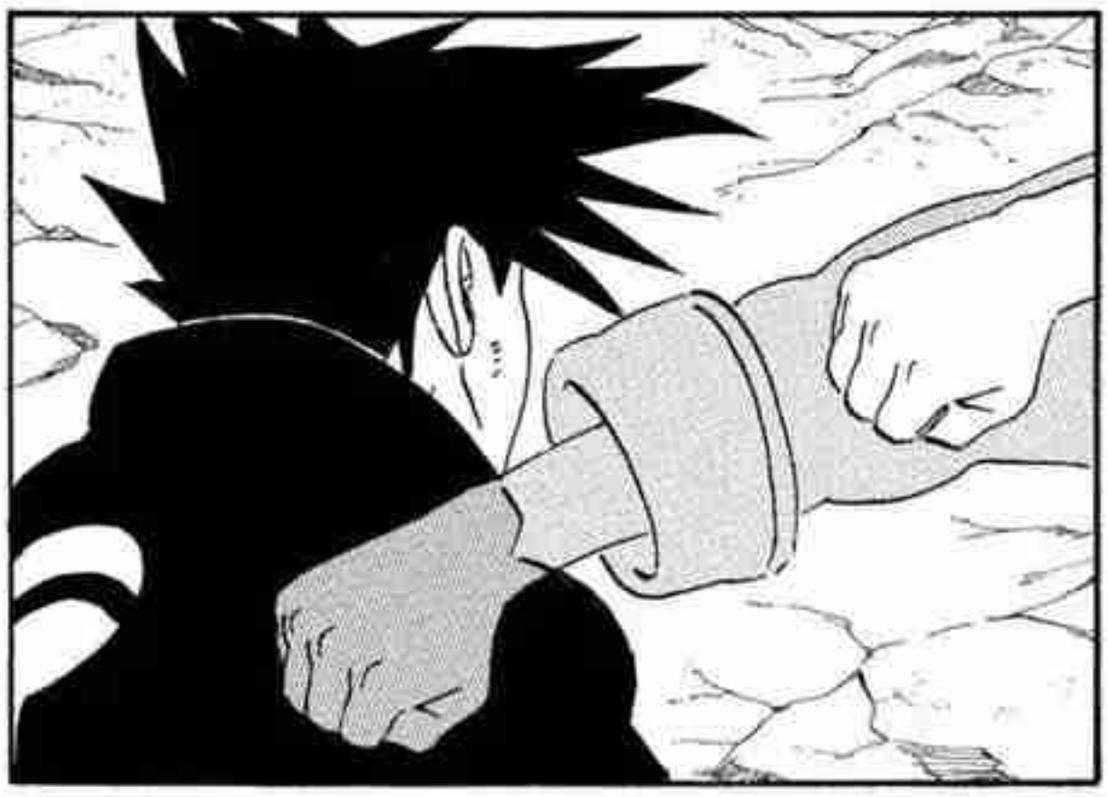


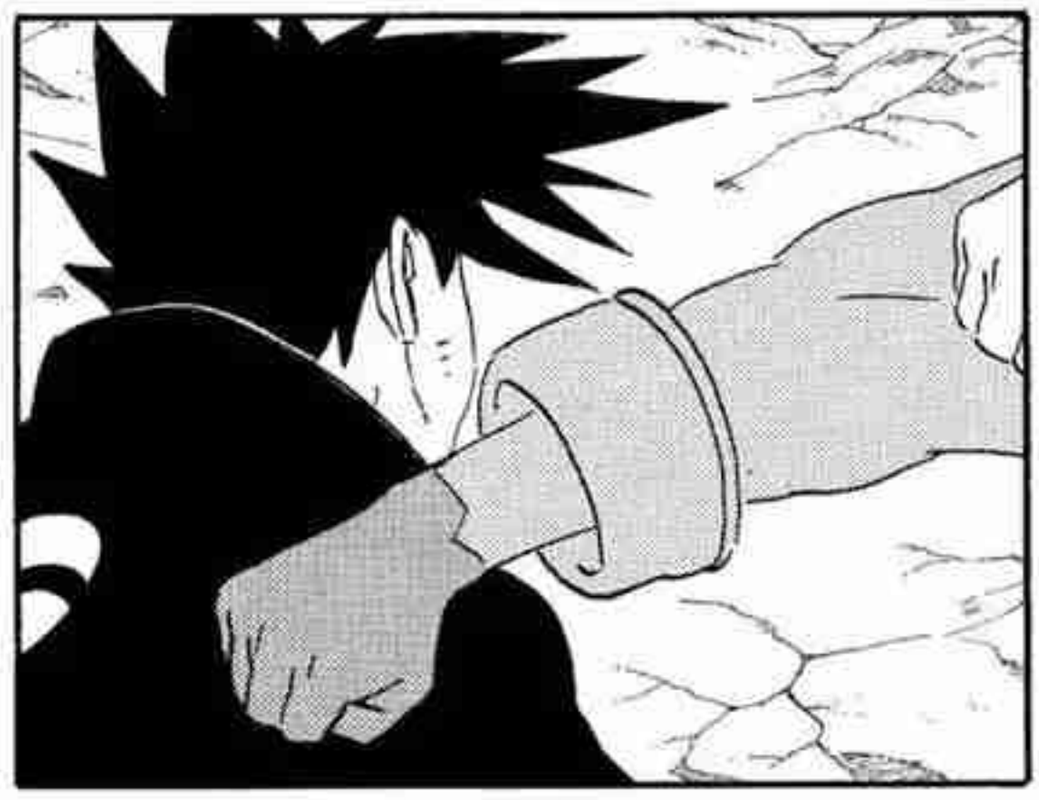
FWOOOOSH

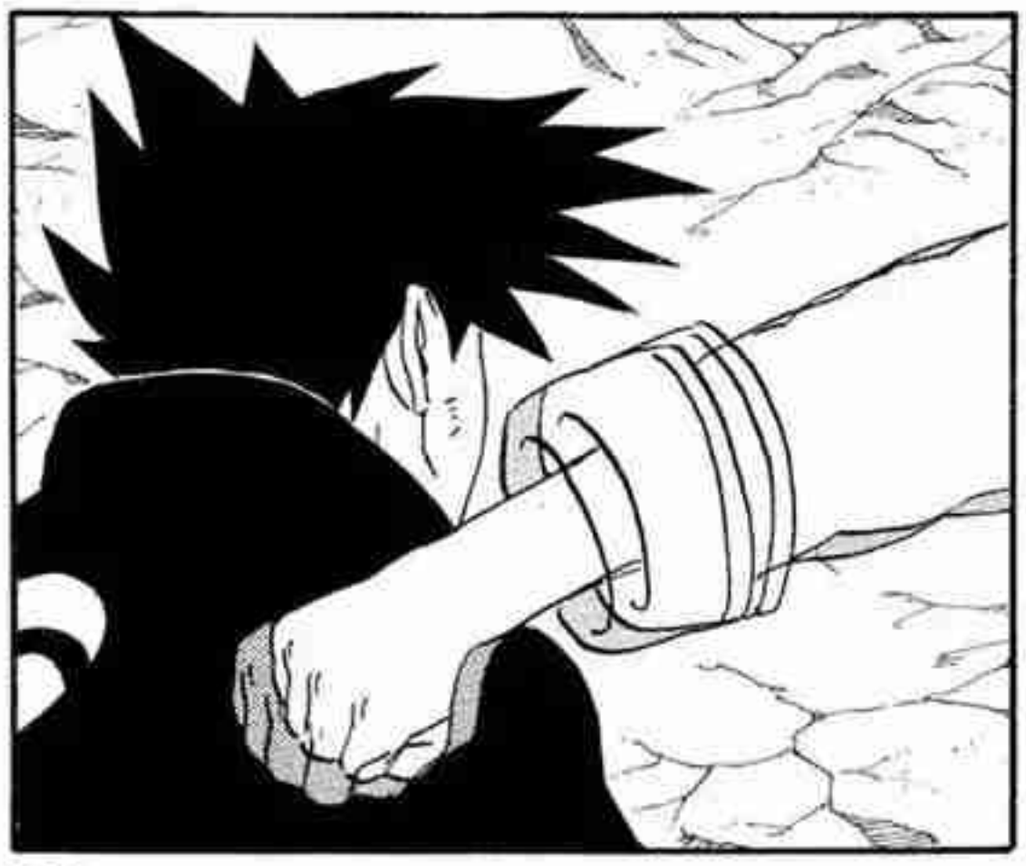
...JUST BY LOOKING AT HIM WITH MY MIND'S EYE.
I CAN TELL WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO NEXT...!


IS IT THE CURSE MARK? IS MY BODY ADAPTING TO THE EFFECTS?
WHOA. BEFORE, I COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH HIM. BUT NOW...

SWOOO







SKIP
SKIP
?!

GIVEN HOW THE CURSE MARK DRAINS ME, EVERY BIT COUNTS.

I CAN CON-SERVE MY CHAKRA.
WITH EYES LIKE THESE...
SHF

SKRR

WITH CHAKRA-SIGHT LIKE THIS...
GLEAMM

I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE!
PAH... WHO CARES! HE CAN MOVE HOW HE LIKES!
SHOO
OM

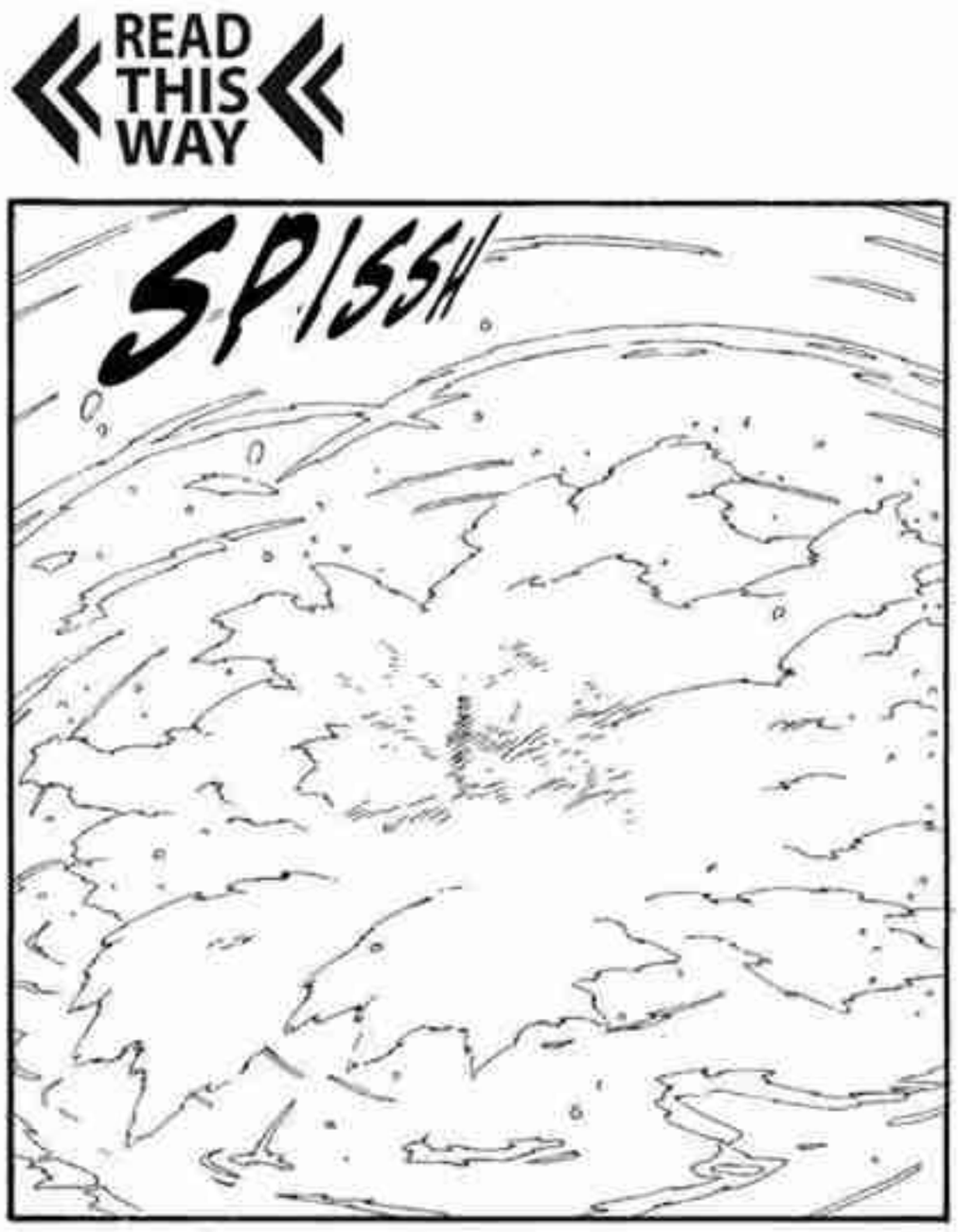
HOW'S HE DOING THIS...?

AND SET UP MY STRIKE BEFORE IT HAPPENS!
ALL I NEED TO DO IS READ HIS NEXT MOVE...

KUNK
!!
BAM

READ THIS WAY
SKRRRR
SPLOOSH
PLOORSH
ACK!!
HE'S ANTICI-PATING ALL MY MOVES ...

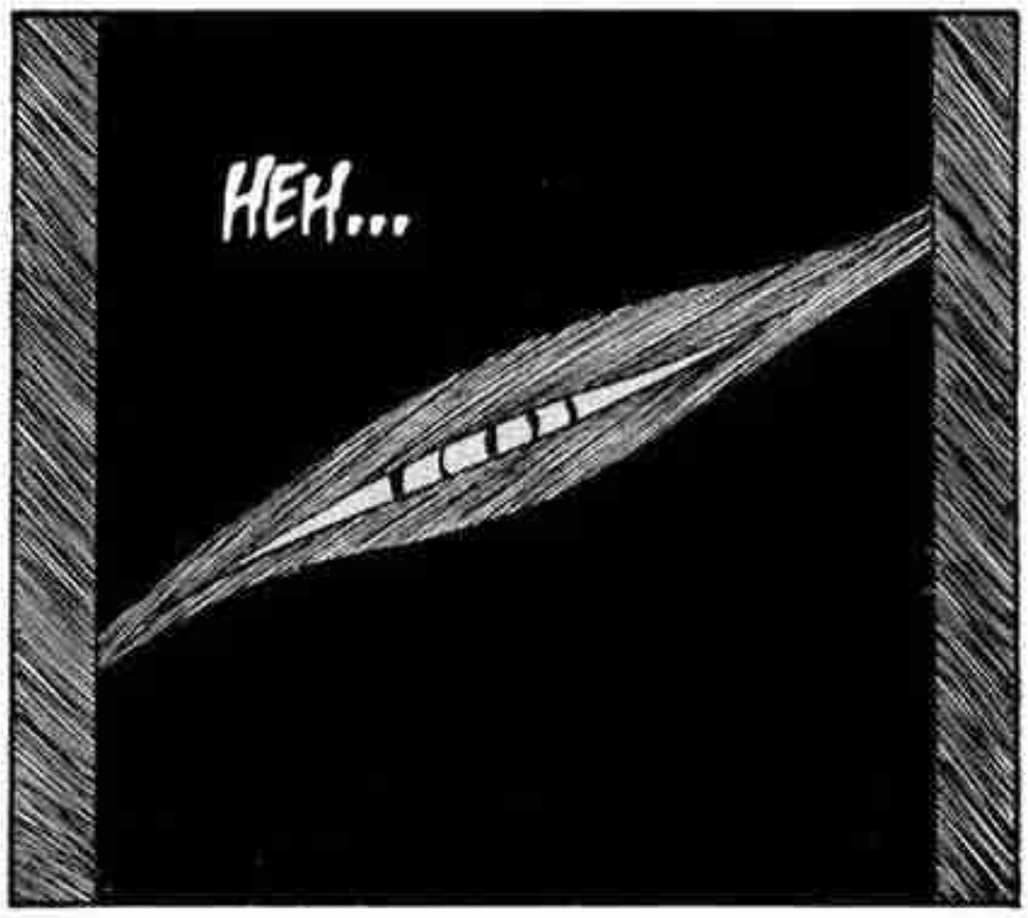
TWIK
KLUG
GAH!!
KRAH
BAH
POW
KLUG
KRAK
SWSSSH

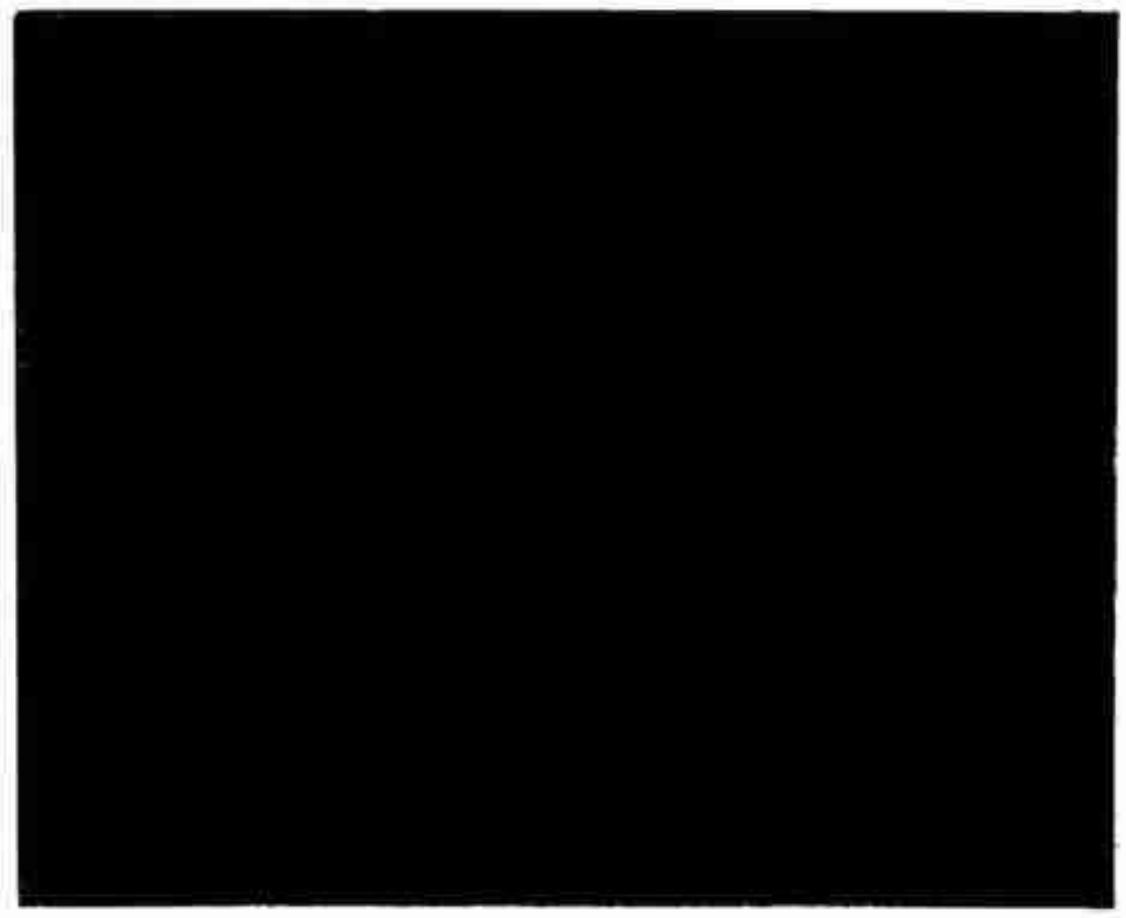

READ THIS WAY
SPISSH

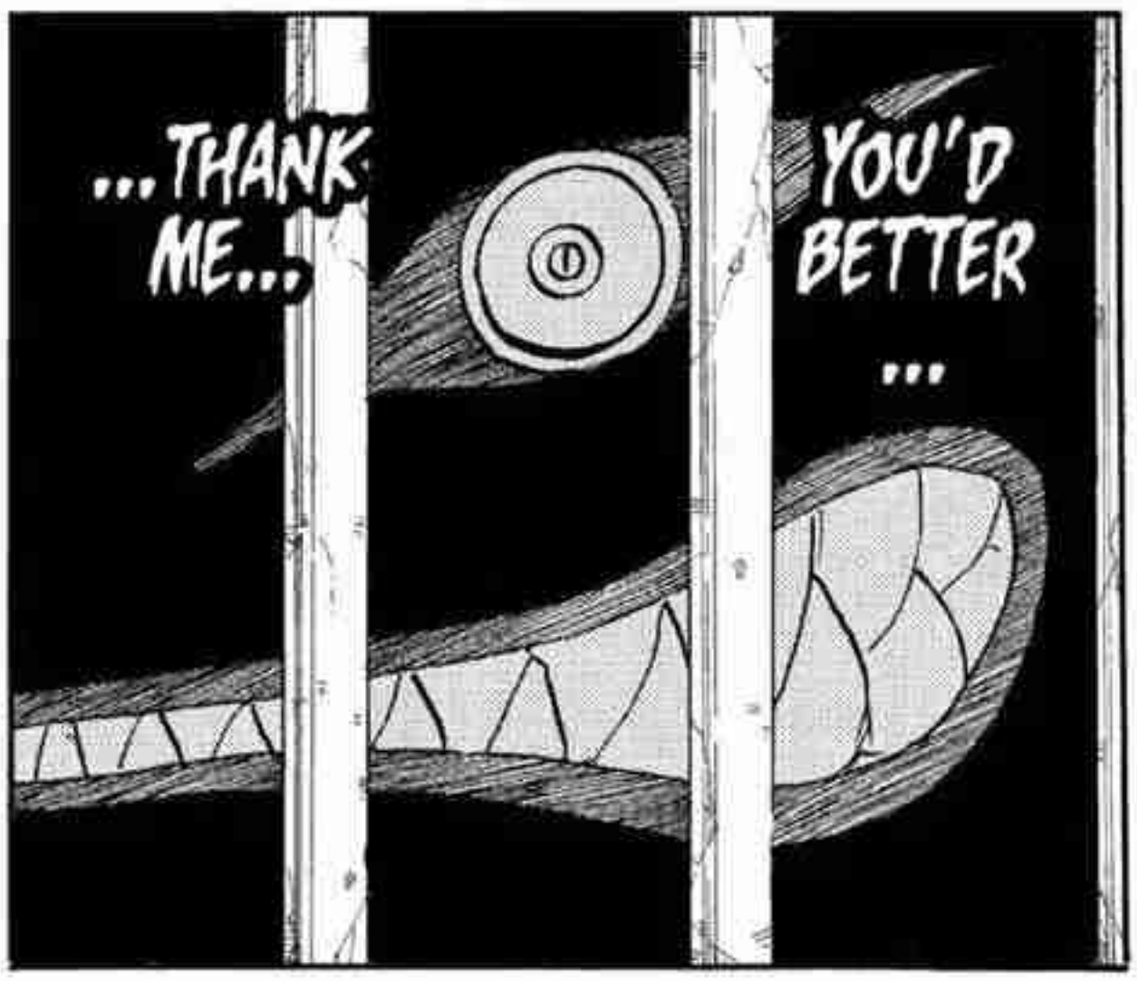
PLOOSSH

...STOP SASUKE.
I'VE GOTTA ...

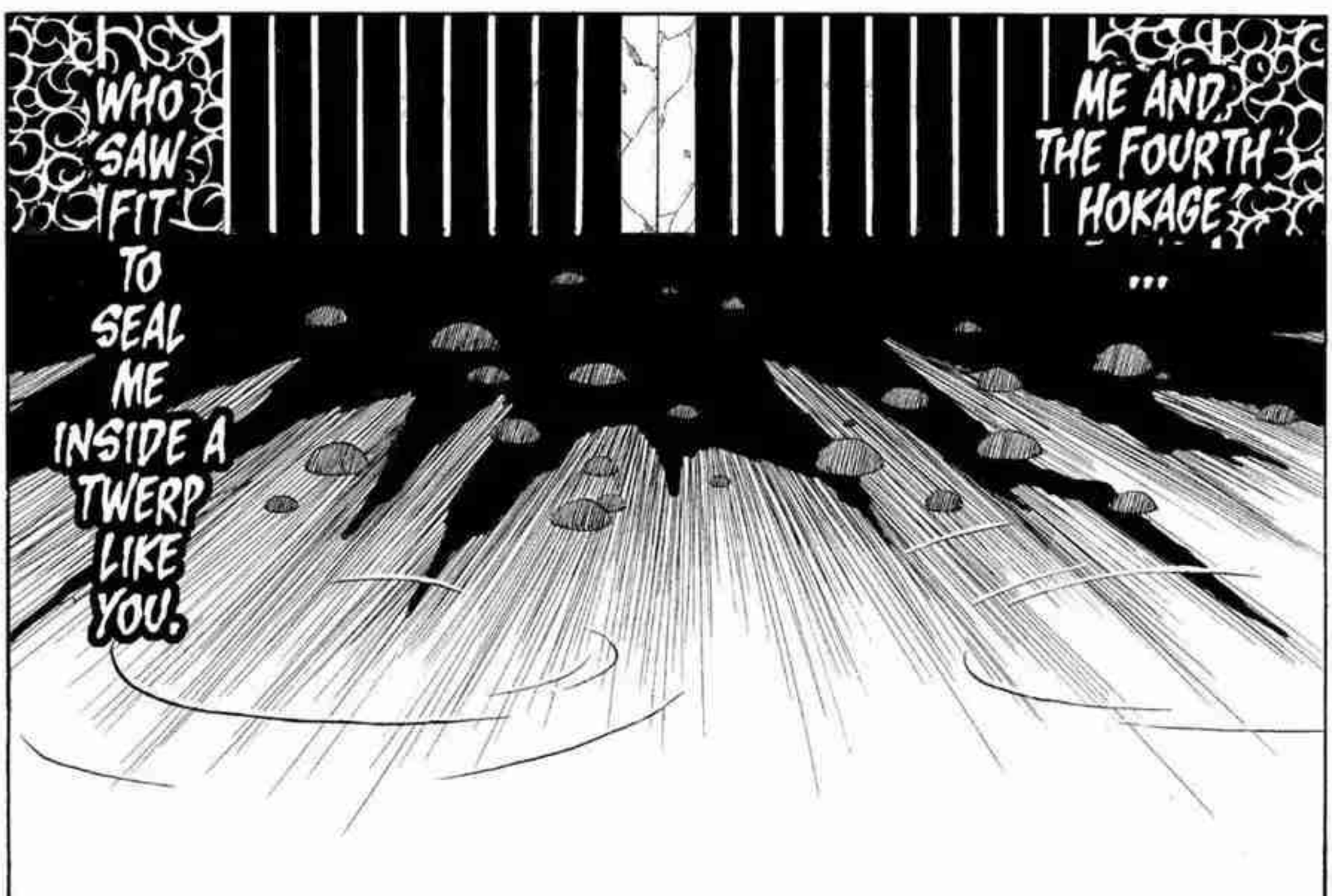
I CAN'T... LET HIM GO...
I CAN'T... LET HIM...


HEH...




...THANK ME...
YOU'D BETTER ...

YOU REALLY ARE WEAK...
YOU RUNT ...


WHO SAW FIT TO SEAL ME INSIDE A TWERP LIKE YOU.
ME AND THE FOURTH HOKAGE ...

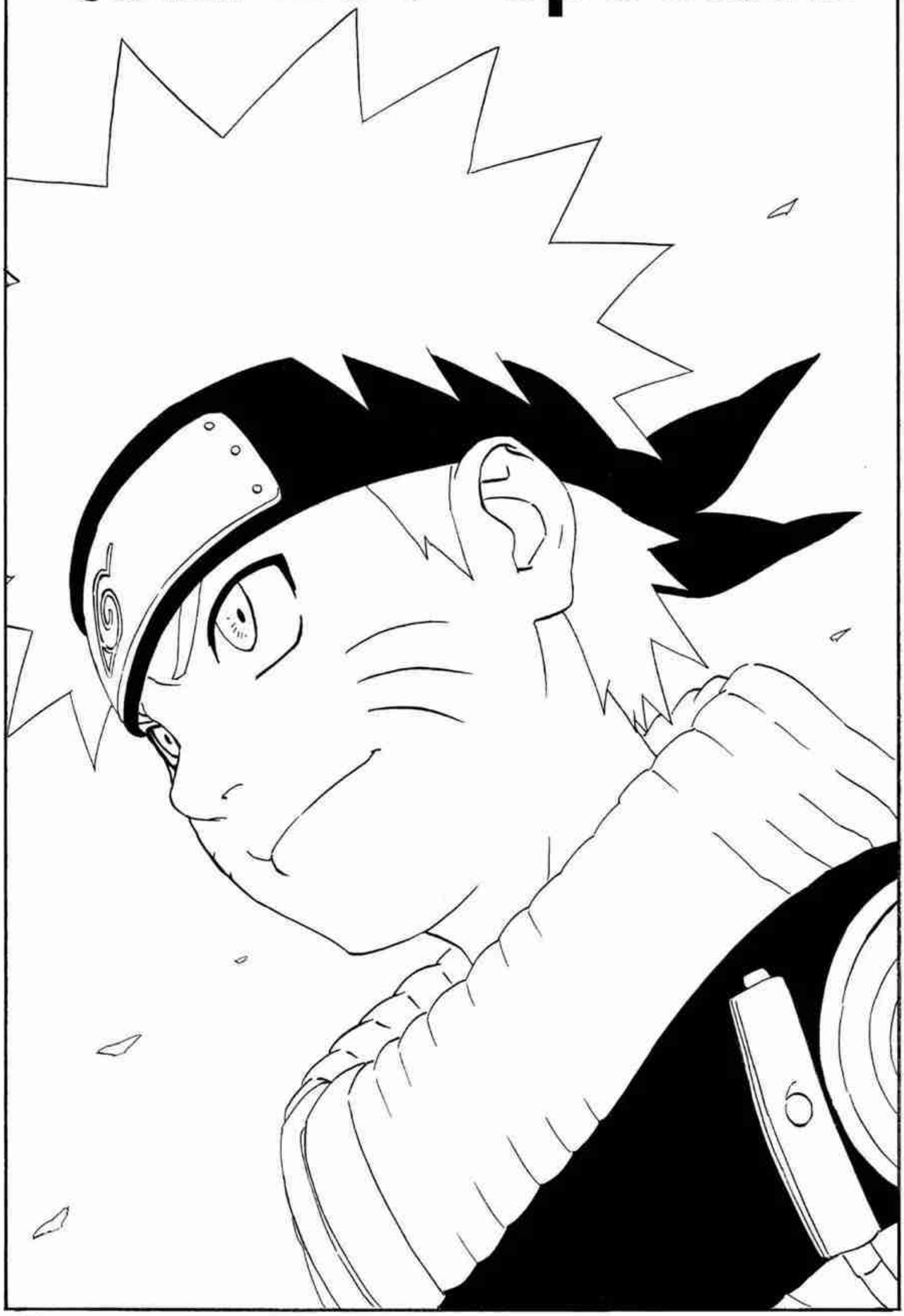
...
!
SPAK
GAH...
URR...
RRG...
RRAH...

KSSHHH

READ THIS WAY
?!!
KSSHHH
MAN, THIS GUY...
...
KSSSHHH

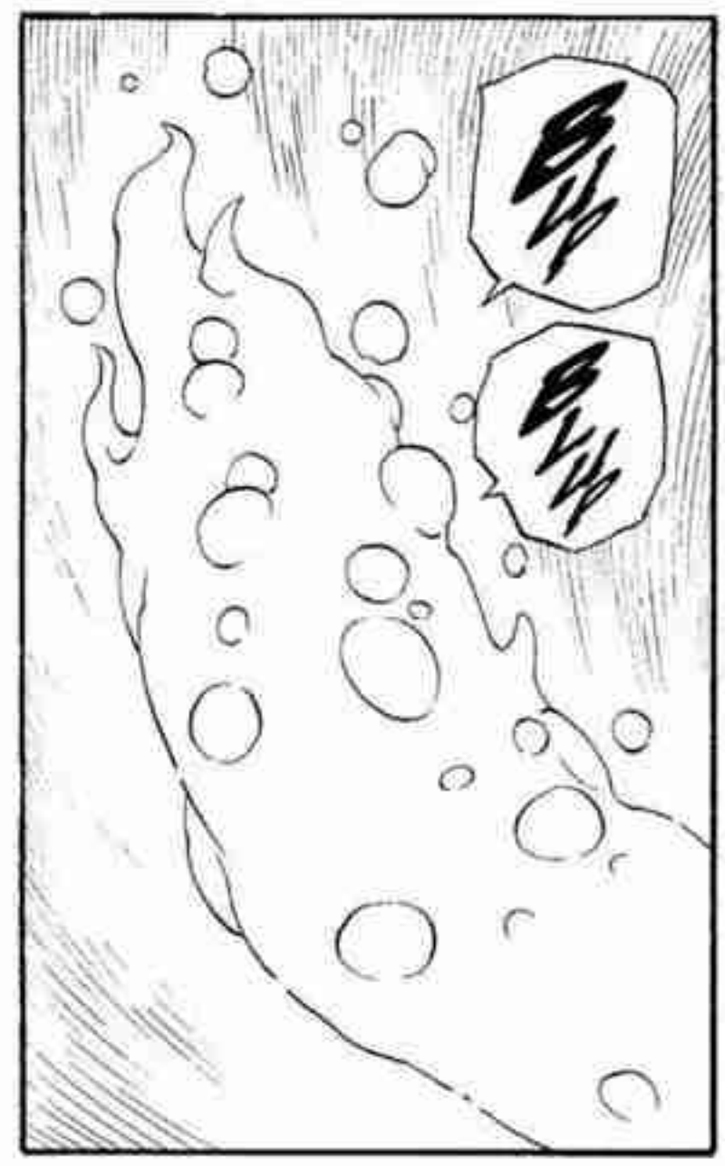
555
5th.ANNIVERSARY
2004.11.8 池本幹雄
Mikio Ikemoto

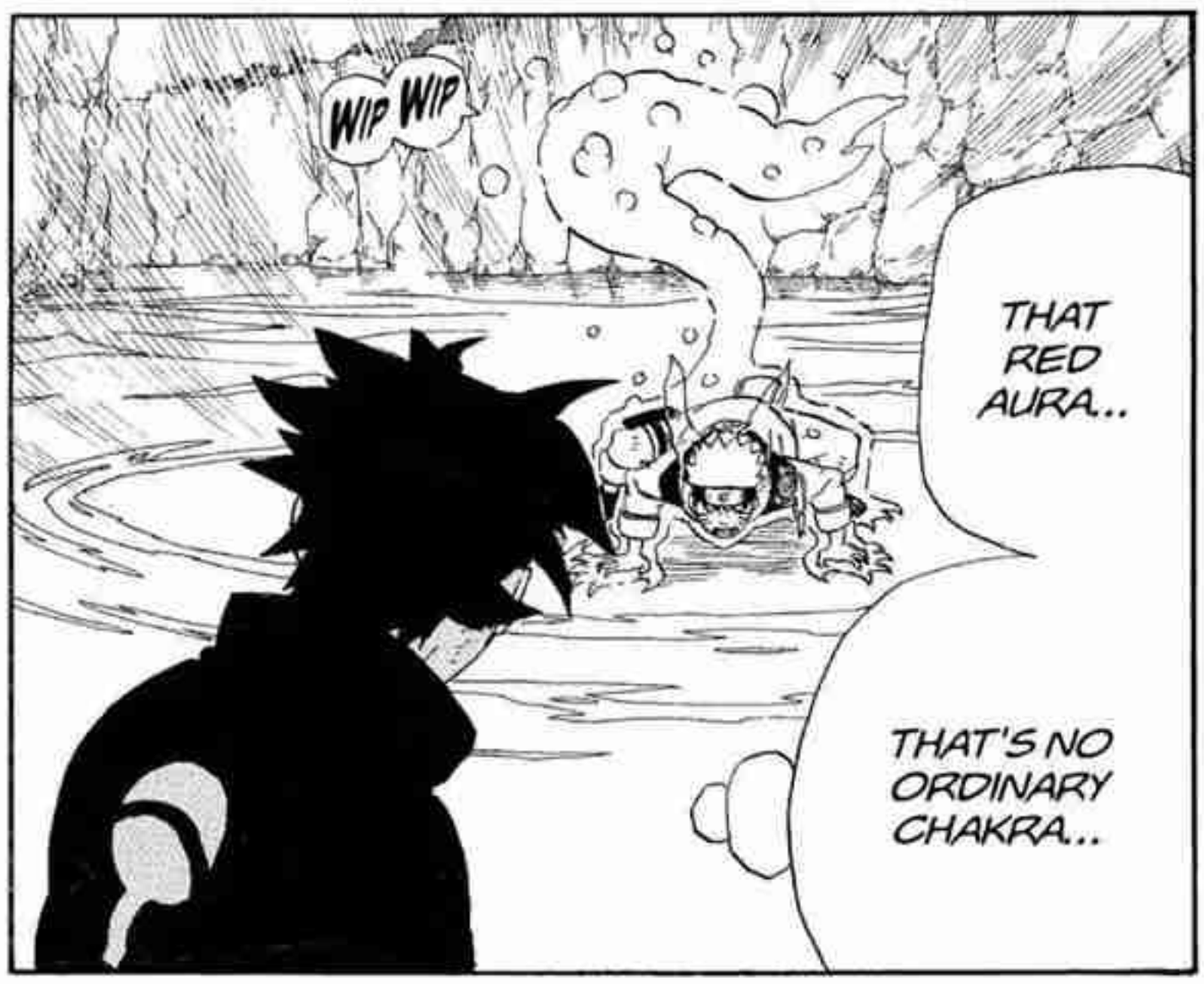
Number 231: Special!!



GWURM GWURM GWURM GWURM

KSSHHH

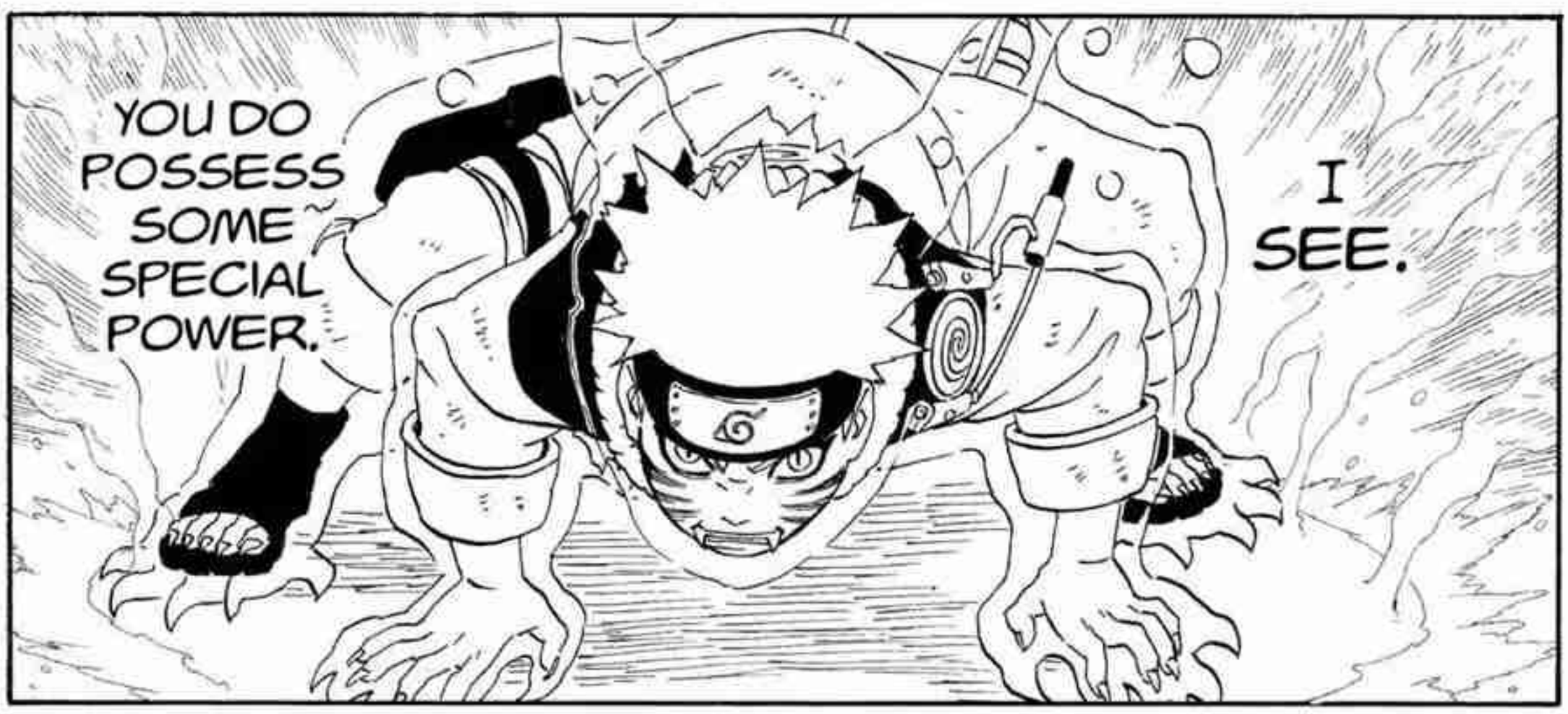




...

IS THE SUPREME ORDER GIVEN UNTO US BY THE AKATSUKI.
TO TAKE NARUTO WITH US...

...HE'S THE ONE YOU'VE REALLY AFTER.


YOU DO POSSESS SOME SPECIAL POWER.
I SEE.

GRR...
GUKKK

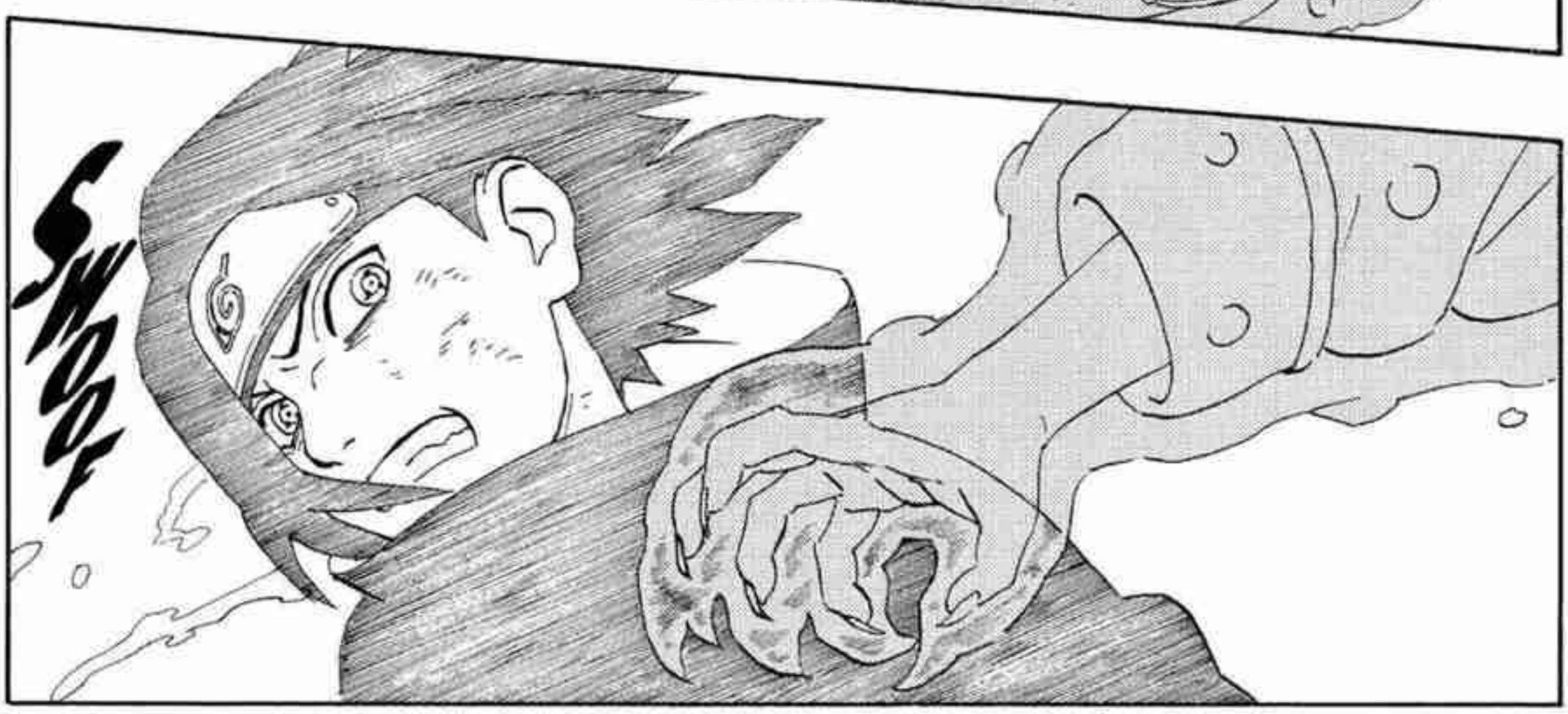
NOW... I CAN SEE IT.
GULP

FWOSH

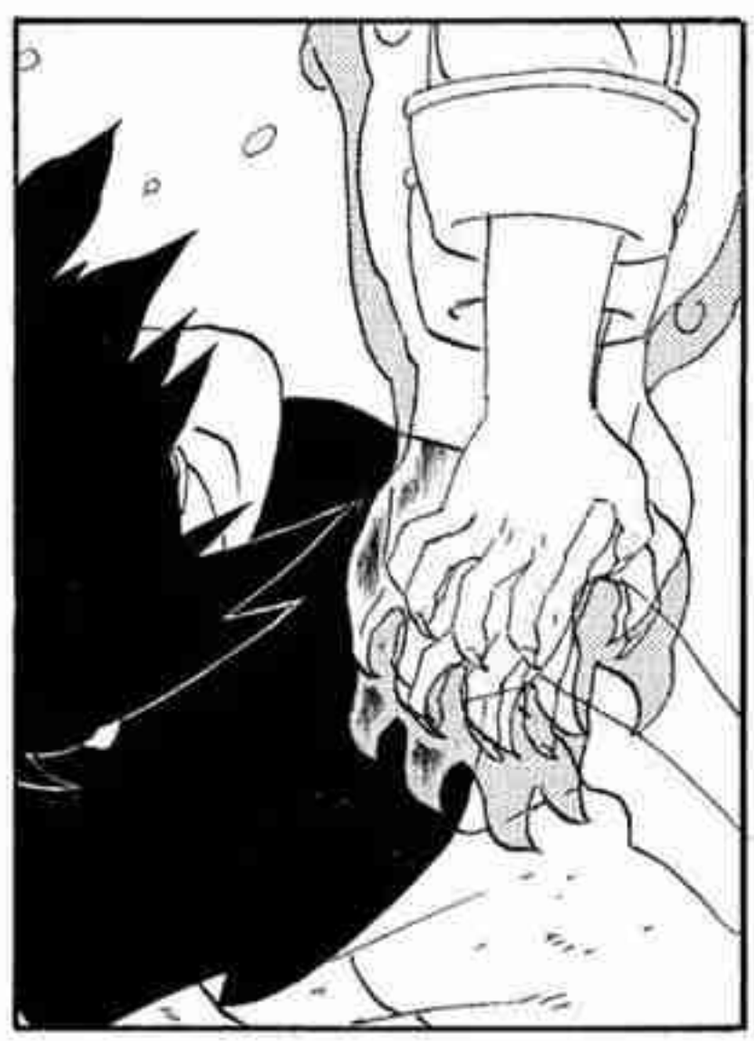
GRAORRR!!!

GUUUUUU

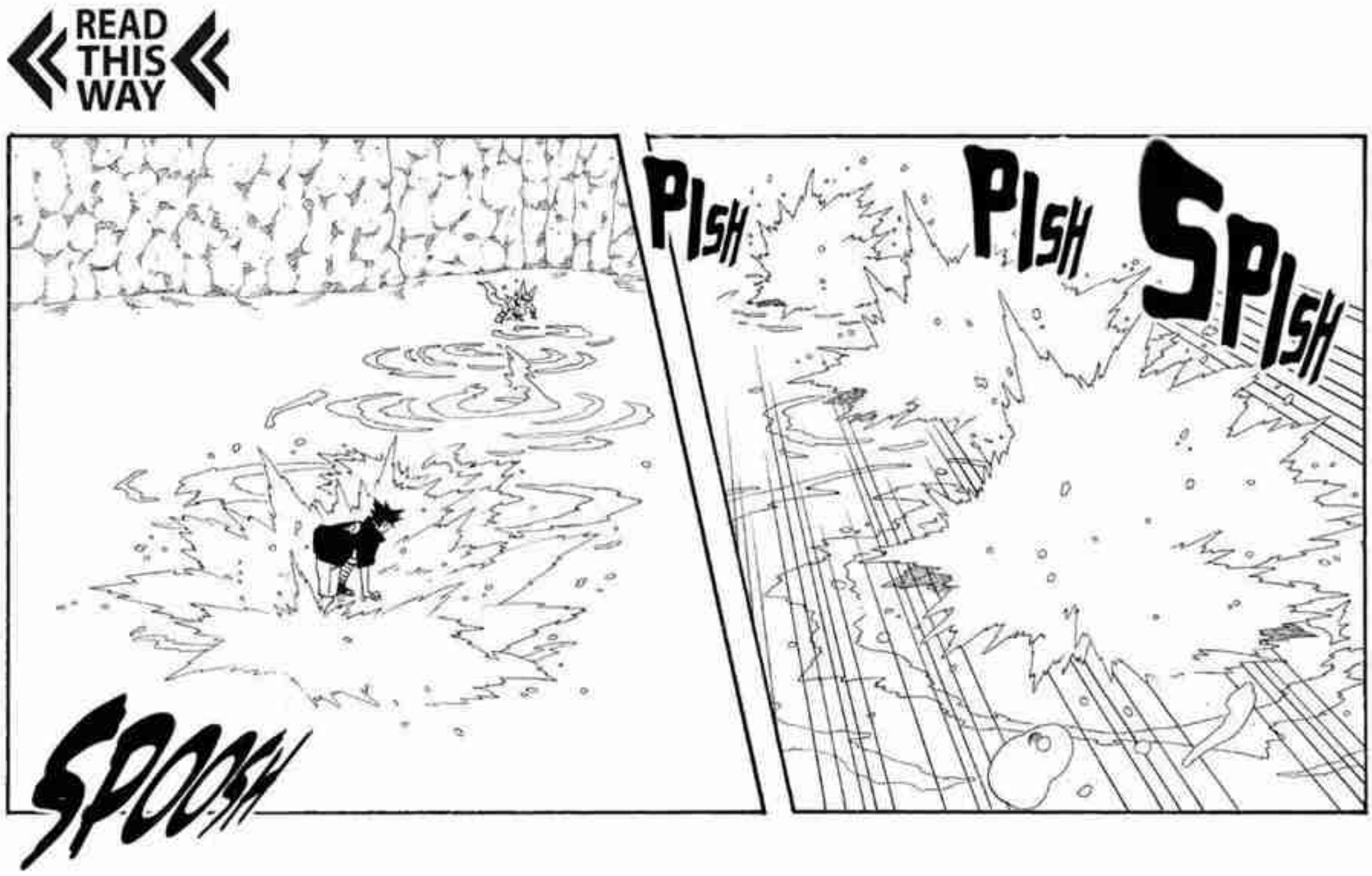
!!


SWOOF

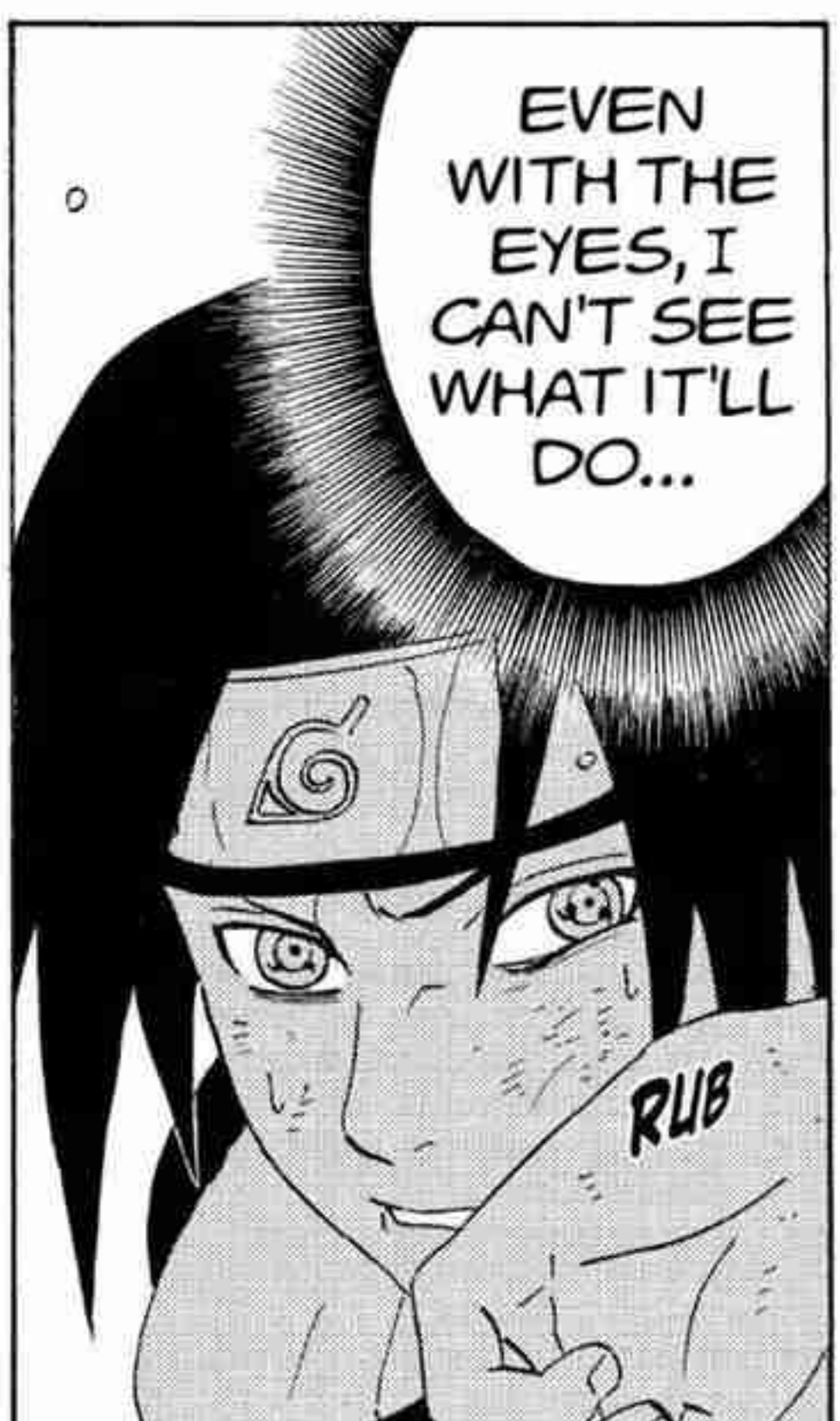
!!

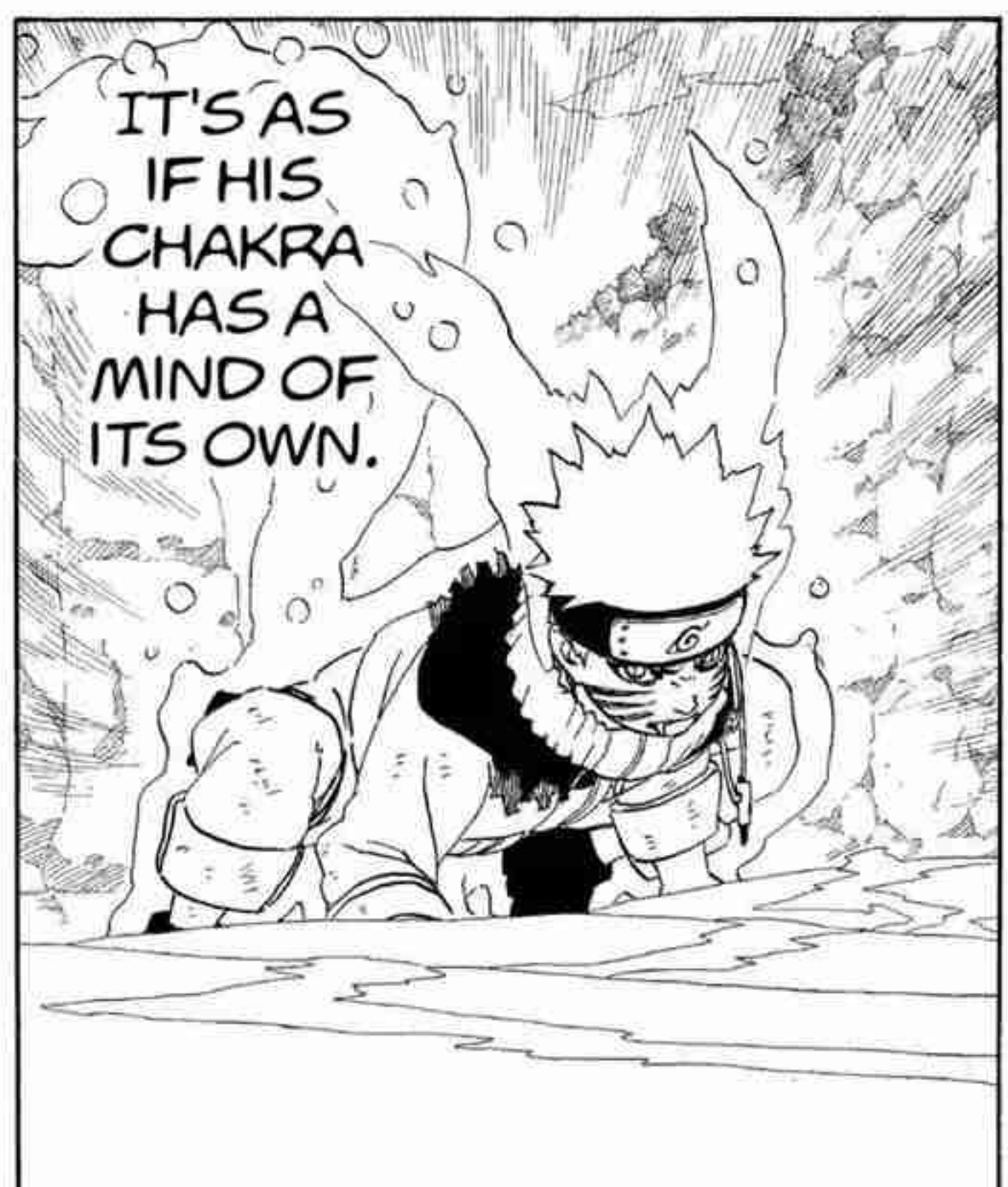


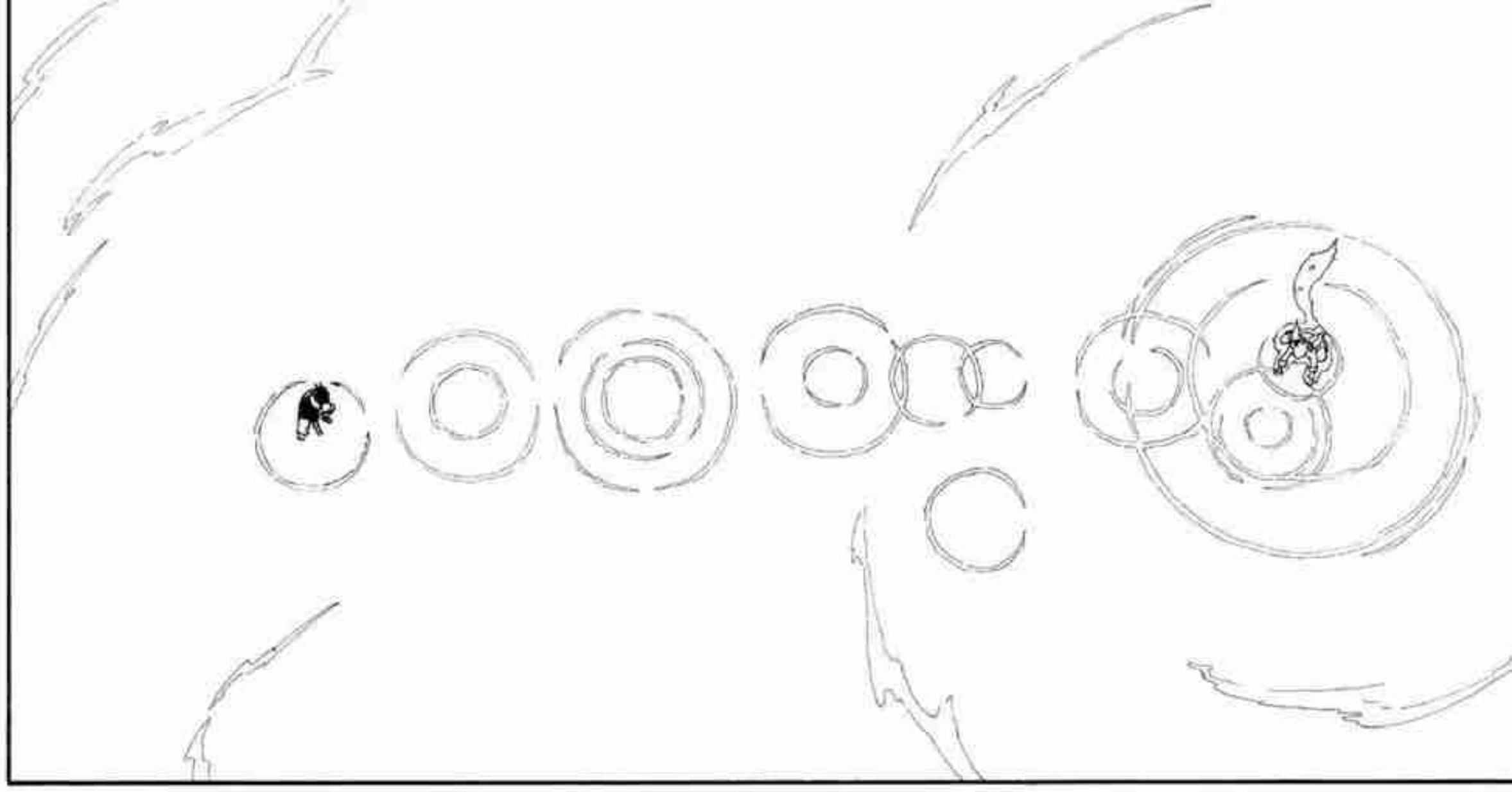
SHWIP


READ THIS WAY
SPOOSH
PISH
PISH
SPISH

I COULD READ NARUTO'S MOVES, BUT HIS CHAKRA ACTED ALONE.
WHAT WAS THAT?!
URK...


EVEN WITH THE EYES, I CAN'T SEE WHAT IT'LL DO...
RUB


IT'S AS IF HIS CHAKRA HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN.



Hmmp

FWIP FWIP FWIP FWIP

SHKK
SO MUCH FOR CLOSE COMBAT, THEN...

PFO
FIRE STYLE! FIRE-BALL TECH-NIQUE!!
OOSH

SHH

OOF

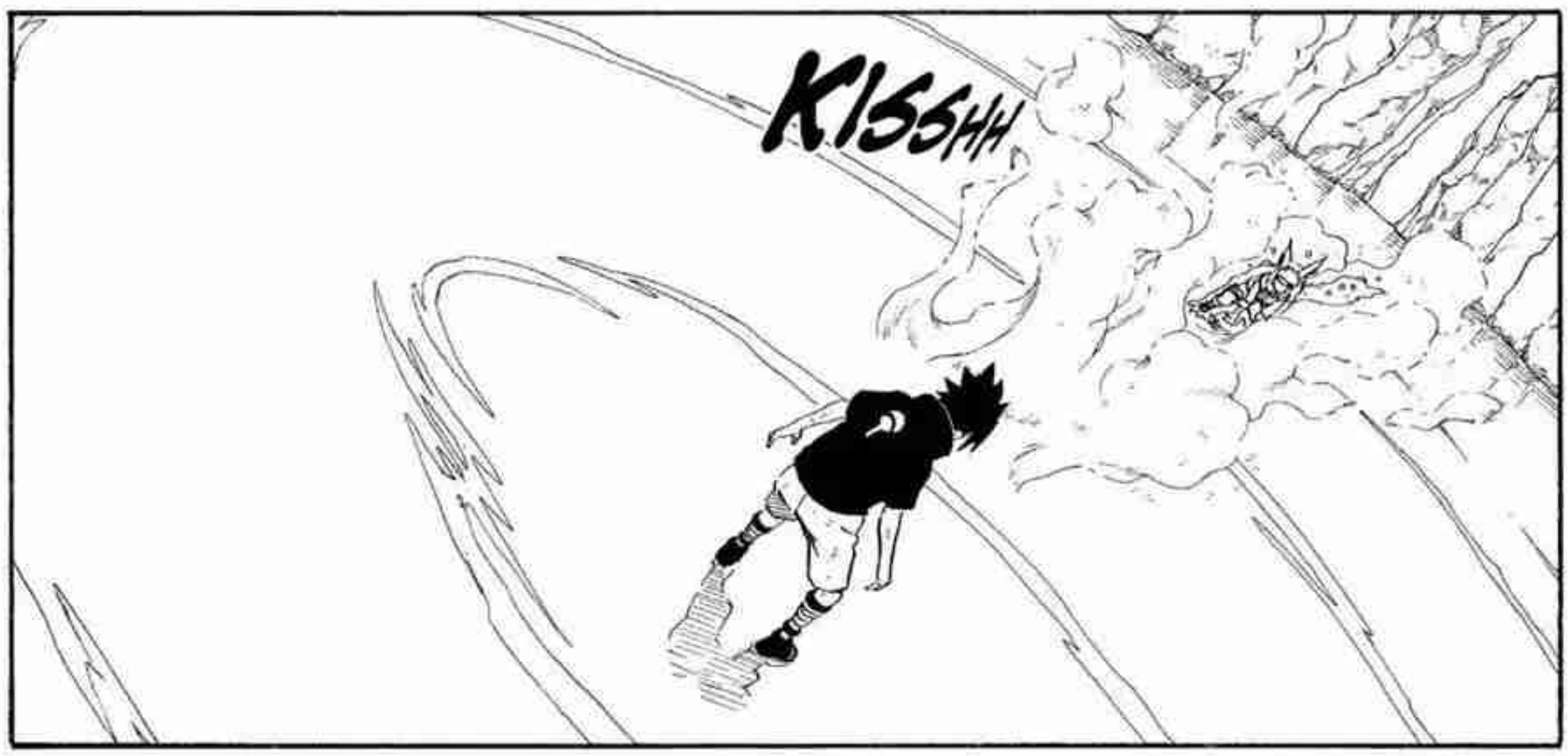
FOOM

FOOF

FOOSH

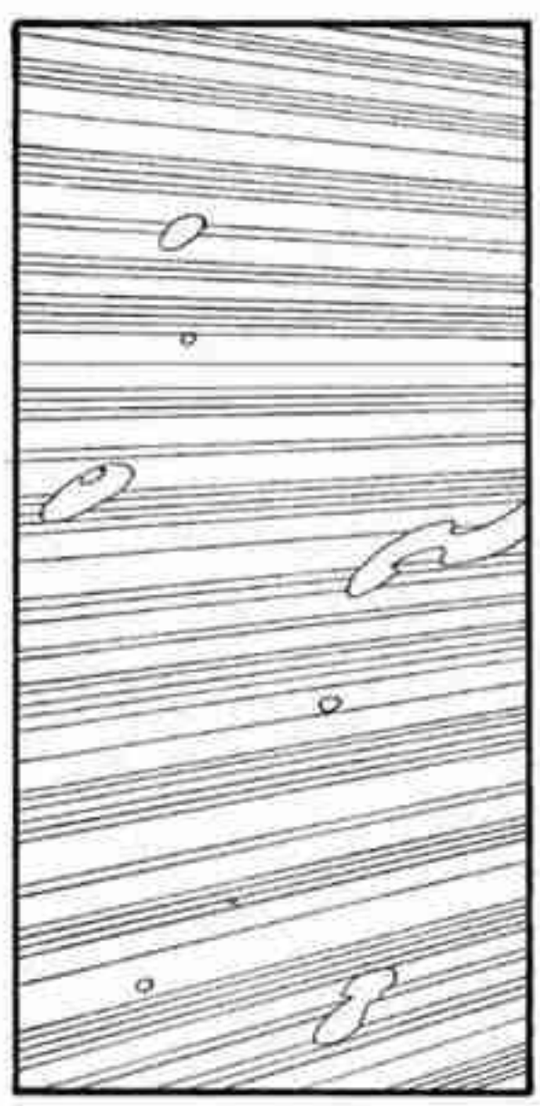
FOOM

PFW HHHF


KISSHH

SO LONG AS I KEEP MY DISTANCE; HE CAN'T TOUCH ME...
OKAY, CALM DOWN ...

SHF

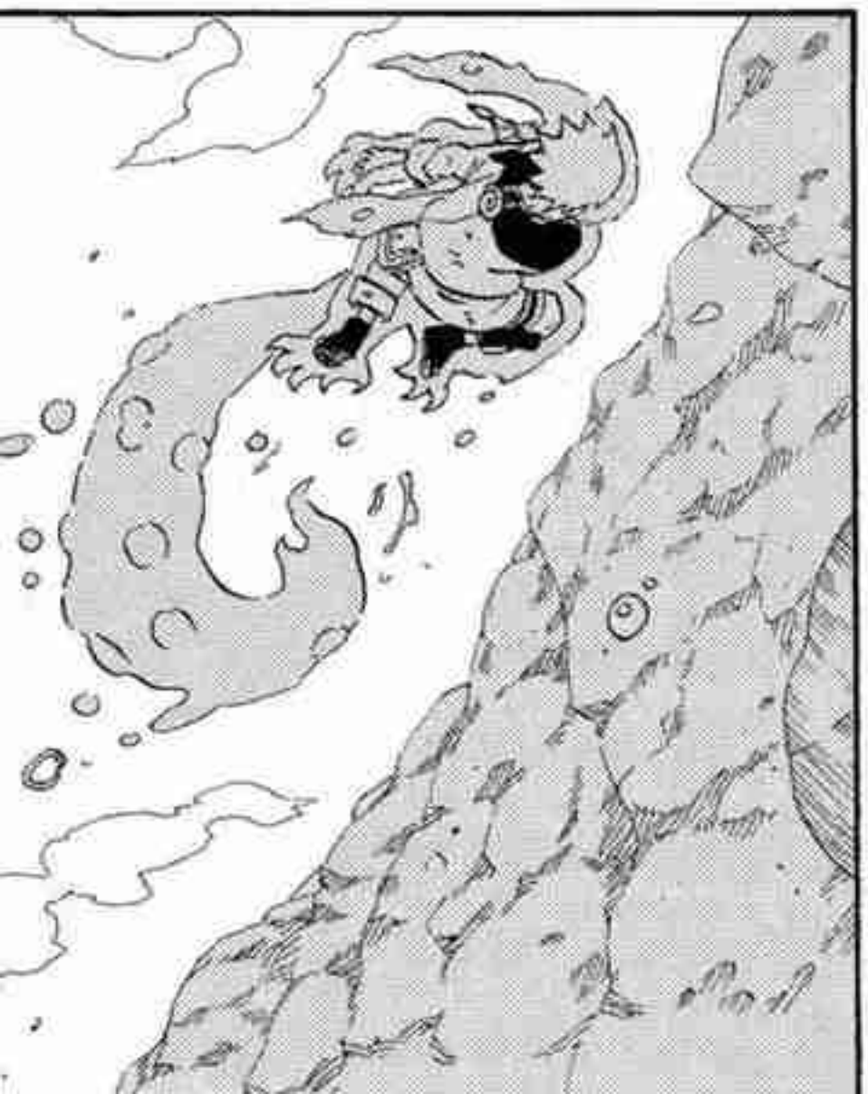


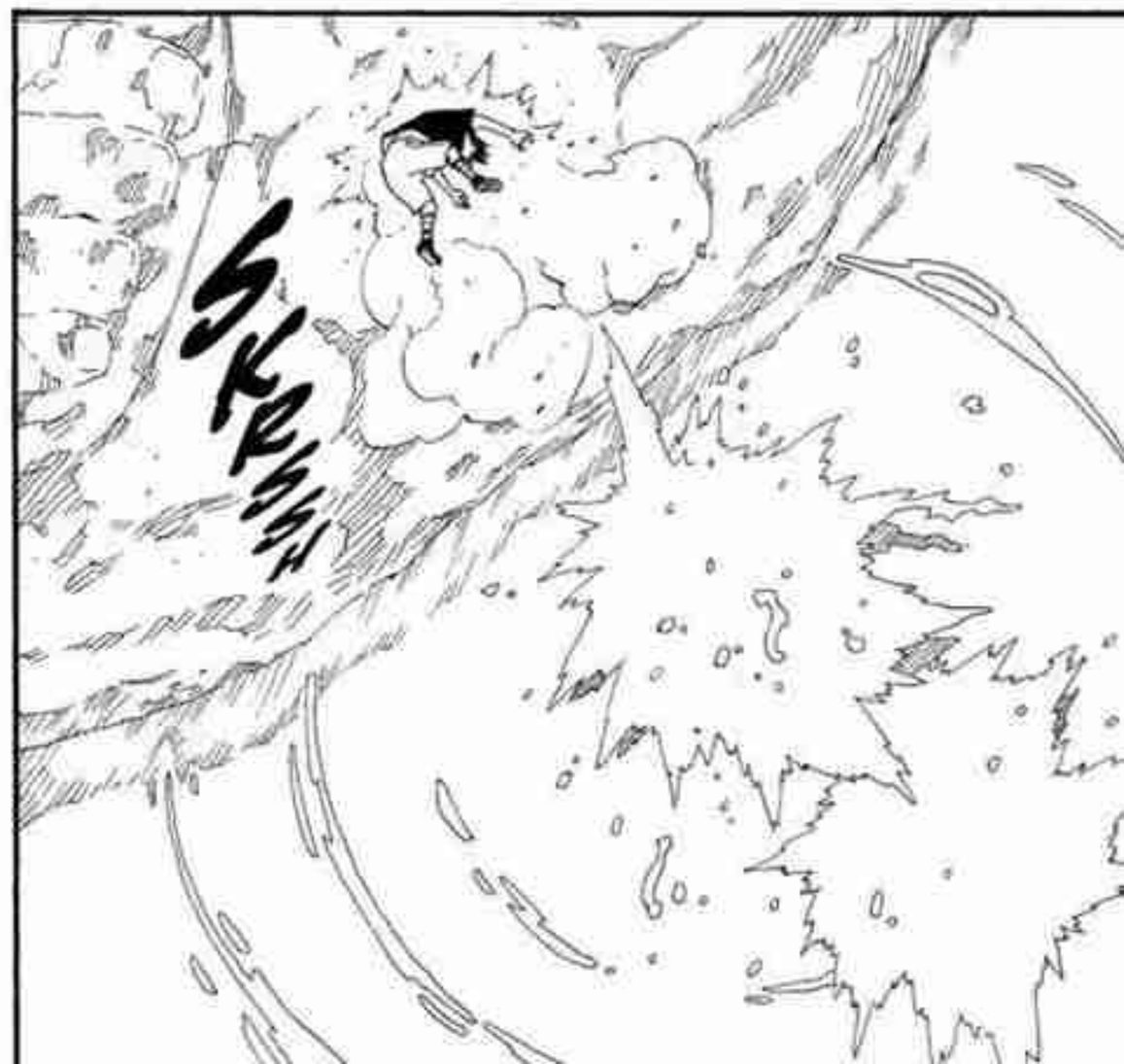
WHAT NOW?!

FASSH

SPASH PASH PASH

GAHH!





SPLAT!

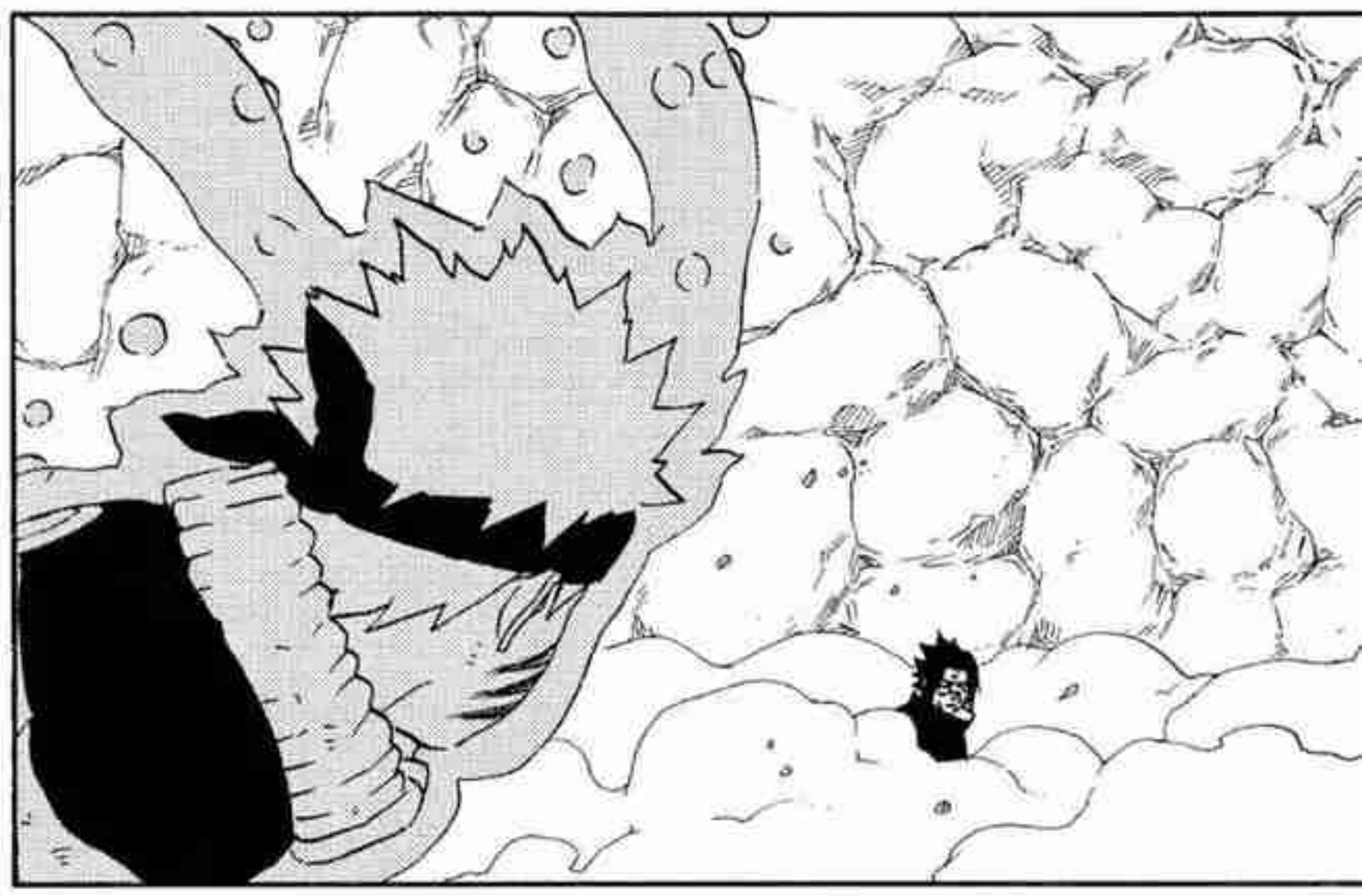
!!

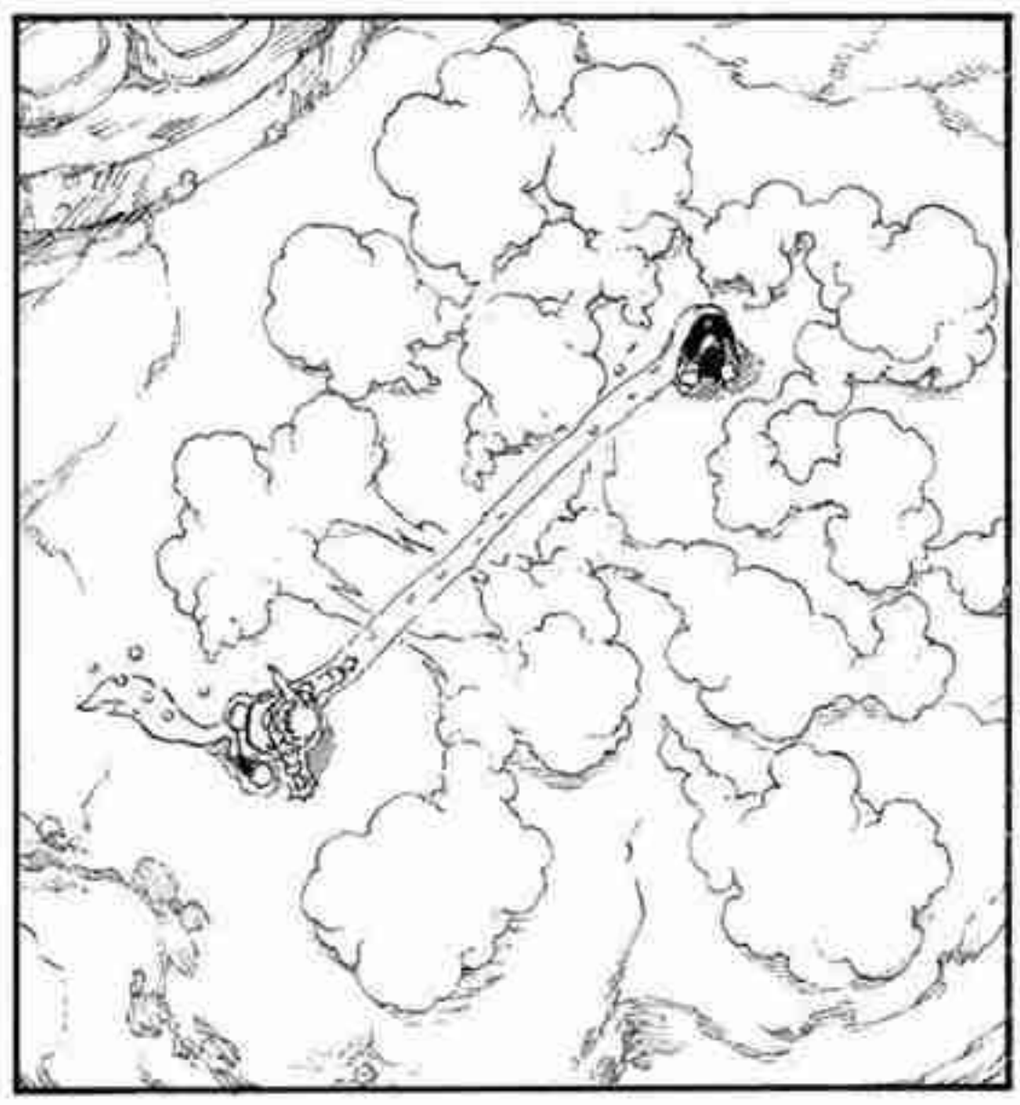
KFSSH SSHH

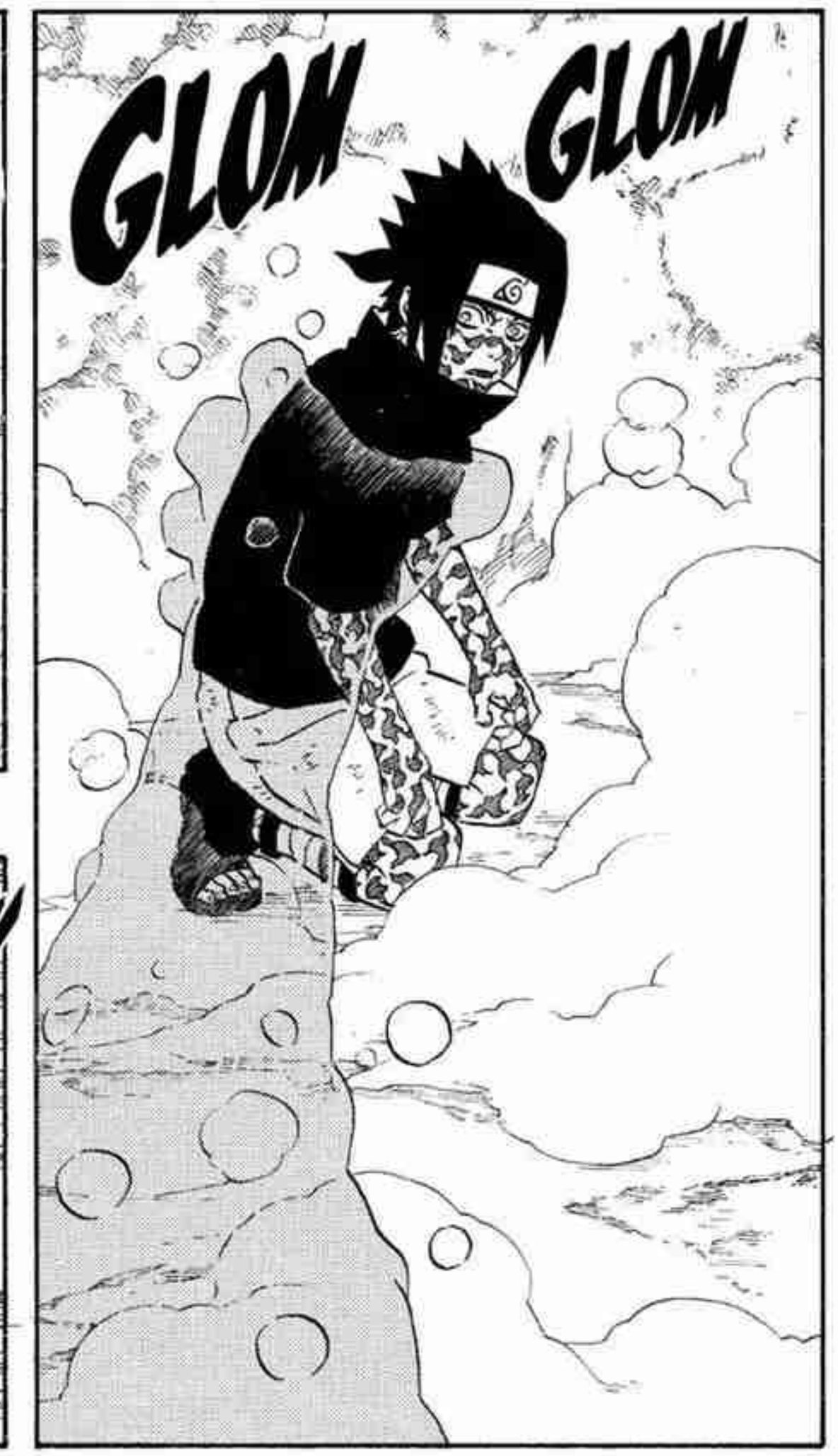
SKA KOOAH

!!

PLIK
PLIK
PLIK
HUF
HUF






GLOW
GLOW

SKRK

WHOAA!
KRSSH
!!

SKAKOO

SWSSSH

PA
PASH

...

GUESS THIS IS IT...
HEH HEH HEH HEH...

HEH HEH HEH...
HEH HEH...
!

YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE...
NARUTO!
SHFF
ONCE I UNLEASH THIS POWER... I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO ME, BUT...
ZWUR ZWUR ZWUR
ZWUR ZWUR ZWURR
TURNS OUT YOU WERE PRETTY SPECIAL.
BUT IN THE END...

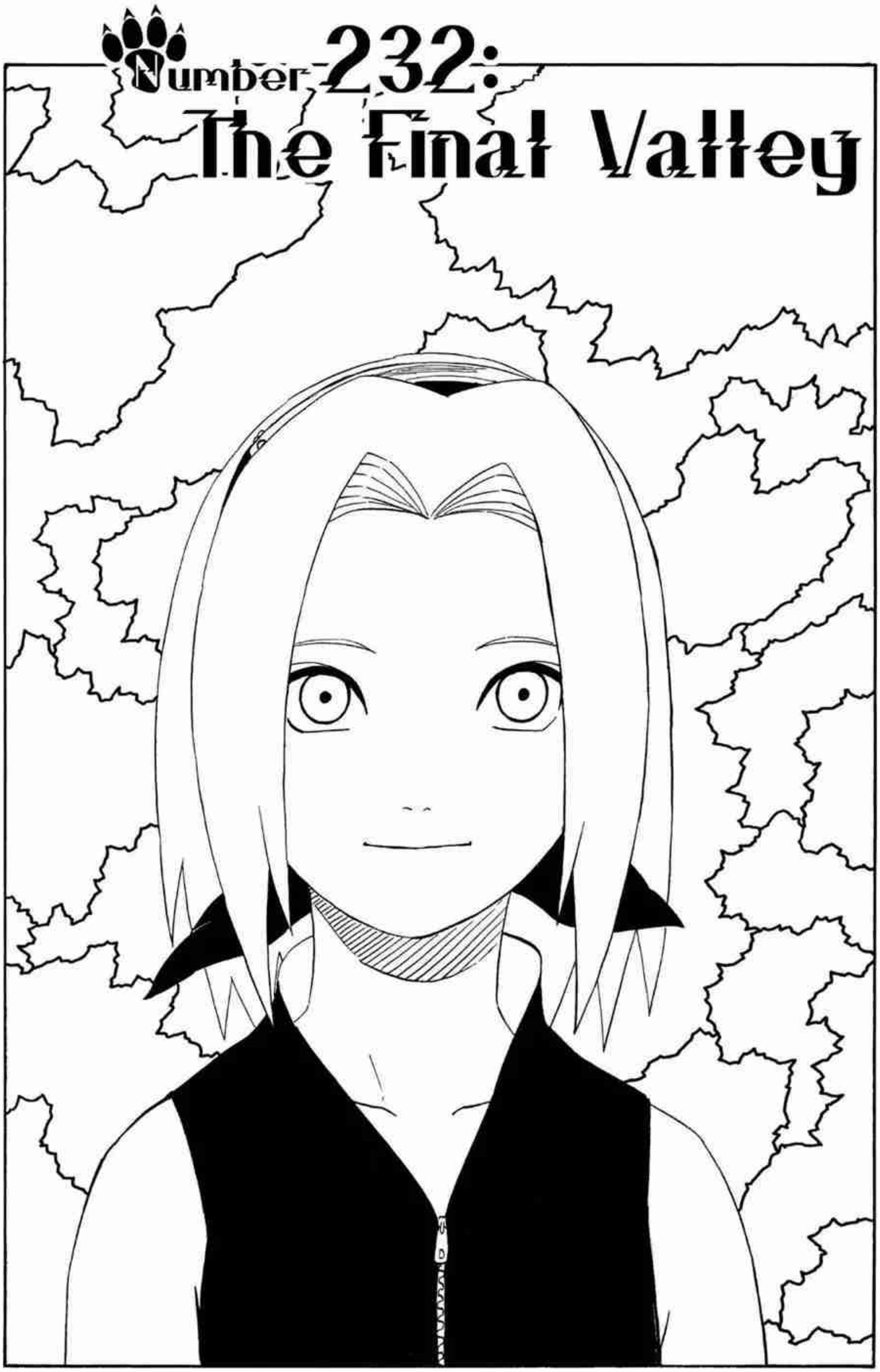
I'M STILL MORE SPECIAL THAN YOU!

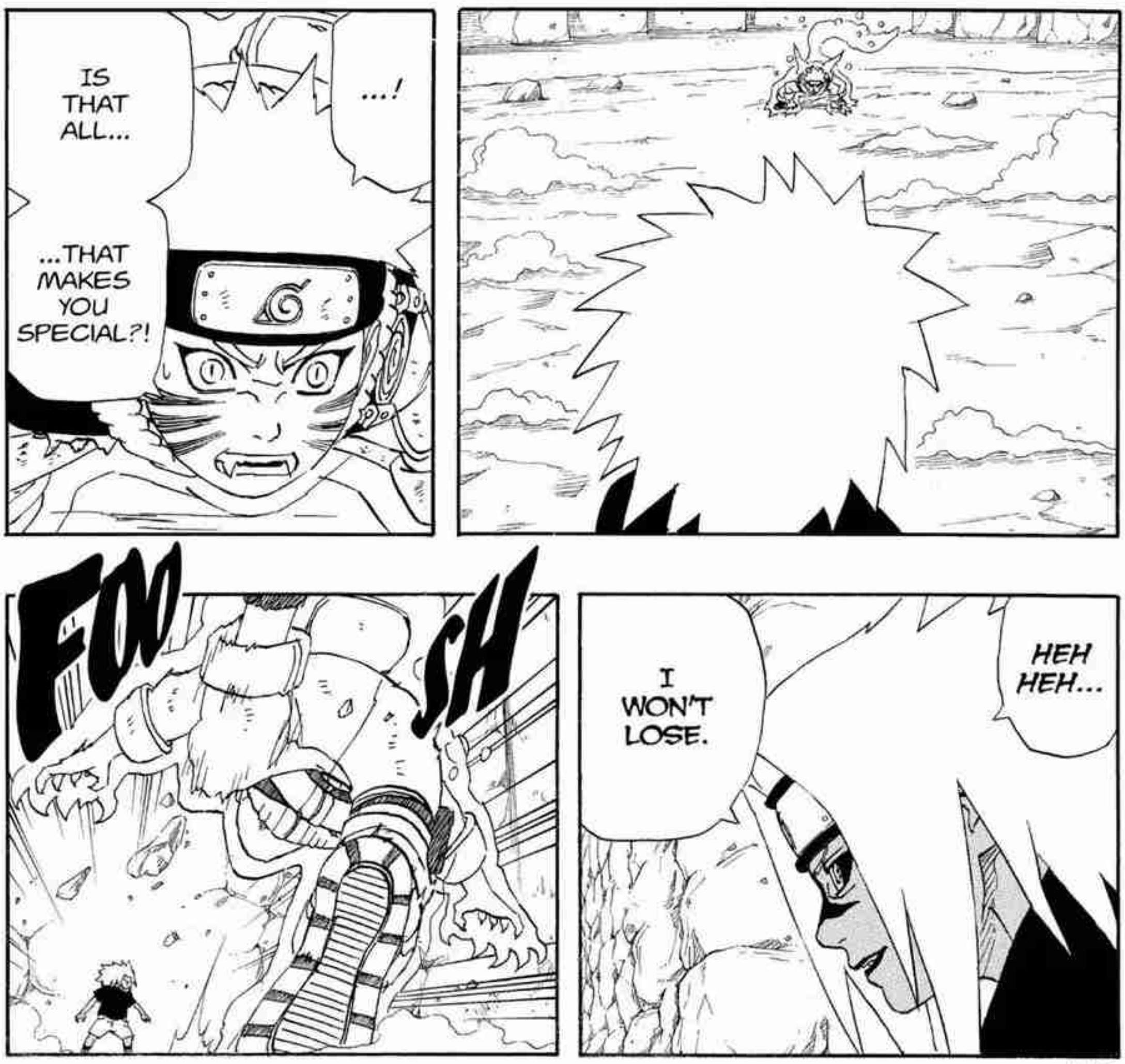
READ THIS WAY
SASUKE
...
...
FOOSH
I'M ALMOST THERE!!

Mr. Kishimoto, congrats on the 5th anniversary!
My hats off to you for the efforts you put in!!

by. 西谷浩一.
Koichi Nishitani

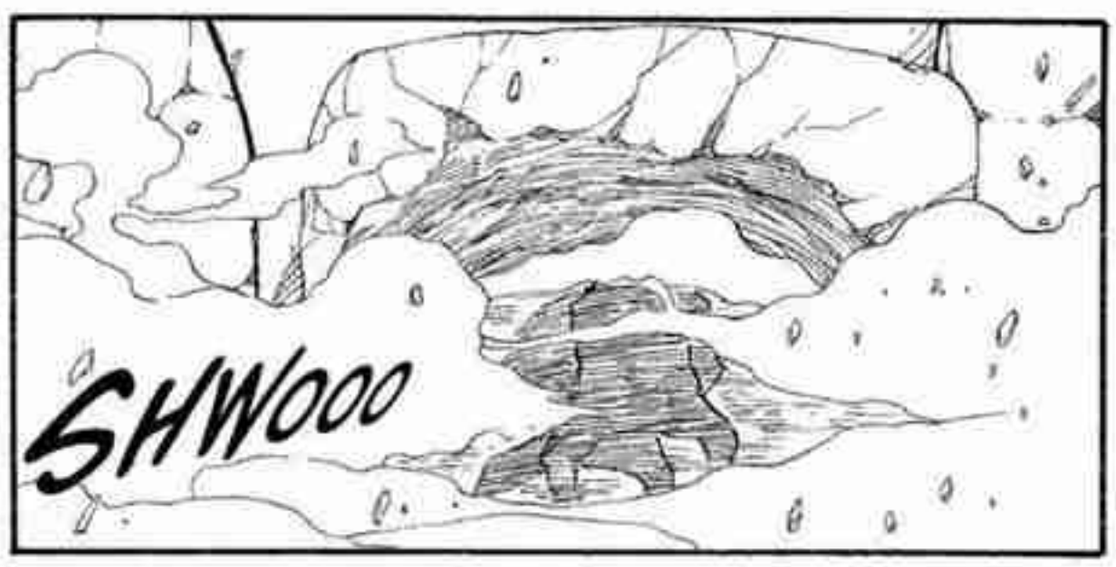
Number 232: The Final Valley




IS THAT ALL...
...!
...THAT MAKES YOU SPECIAL?!
FOO
SH
I WON'T LOSE.
HEH HEH...

CHRR

KRRK KRRK



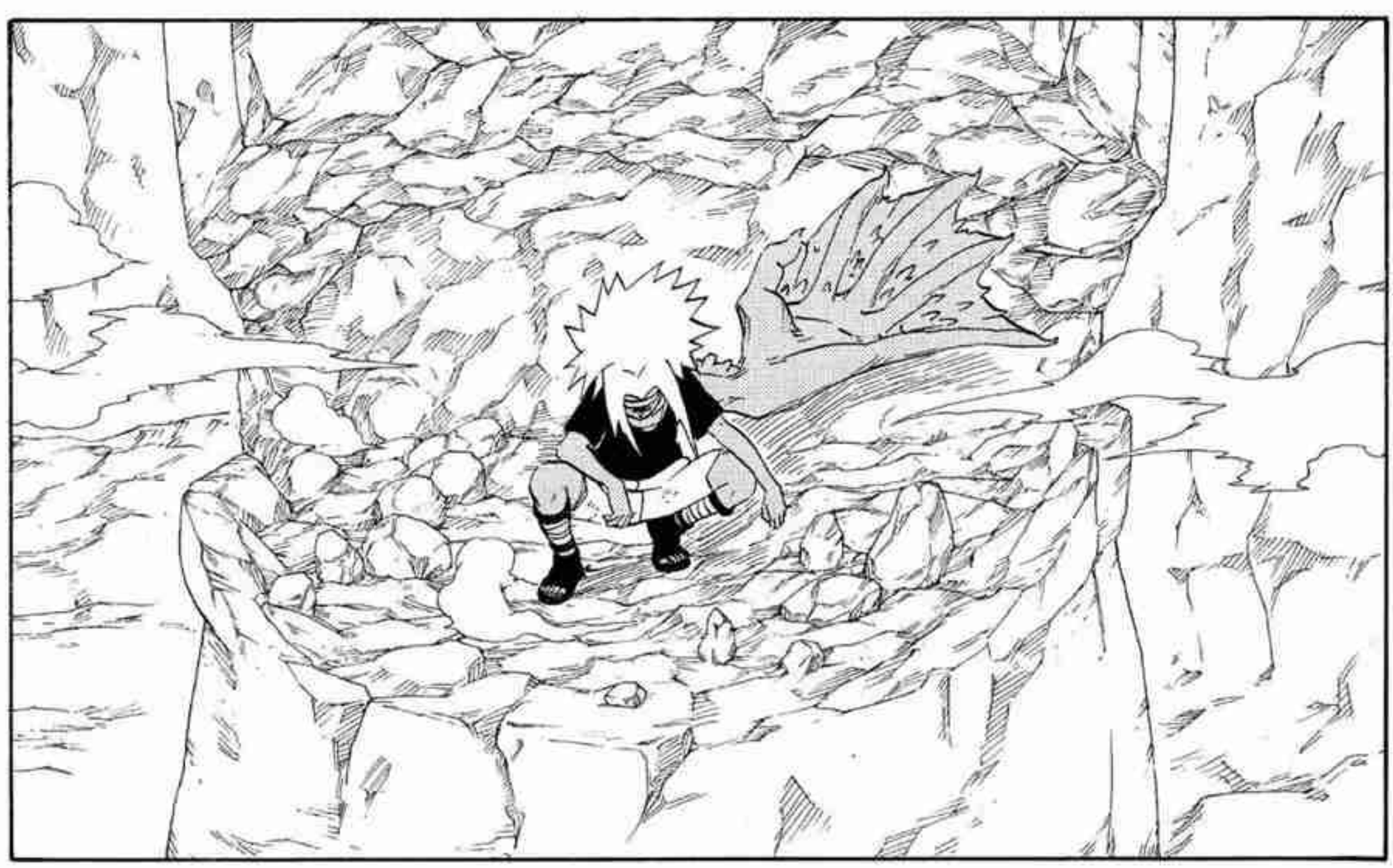
SPA
FOOM
KOW
YAHH!

?!

SWISH

READ
THIS
WAY

URGH...
...



...

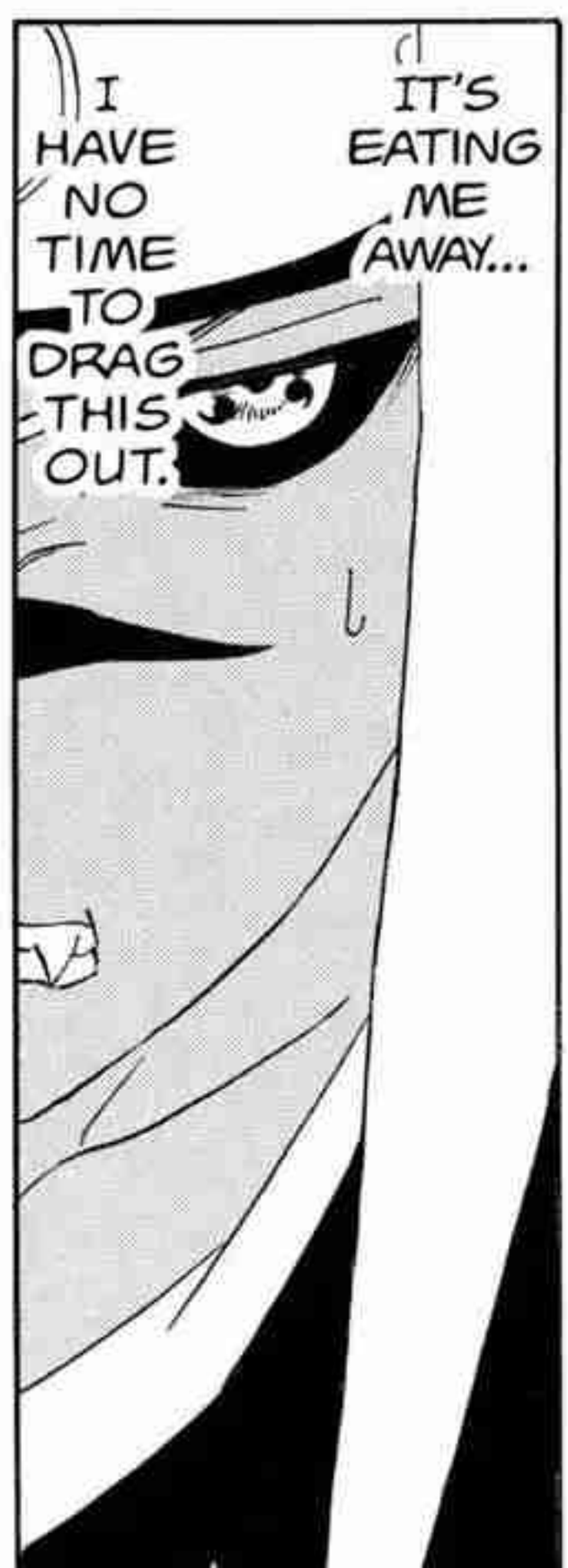
GRUH
...
SHRIP

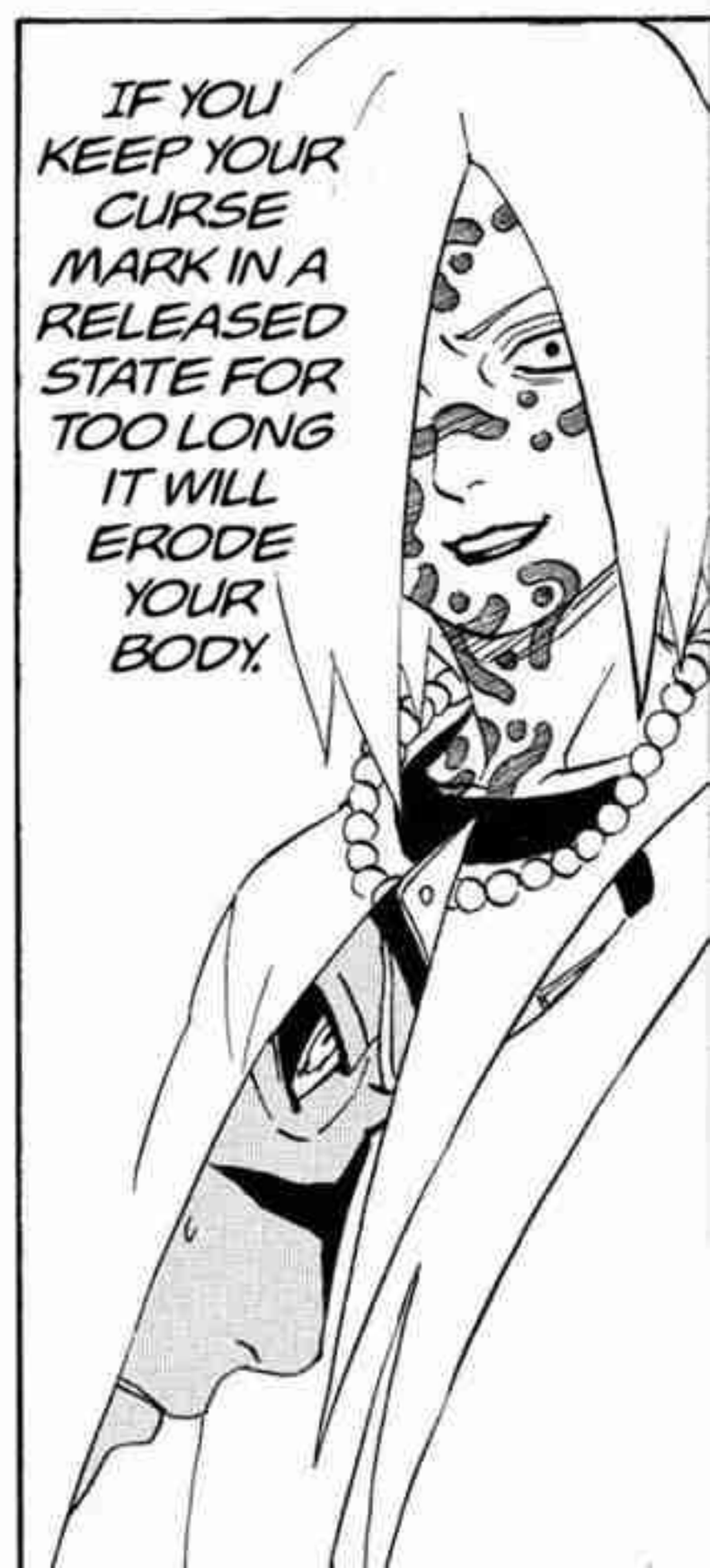
URK...
MMG...
MMGH

SASUKE... YOU...
...

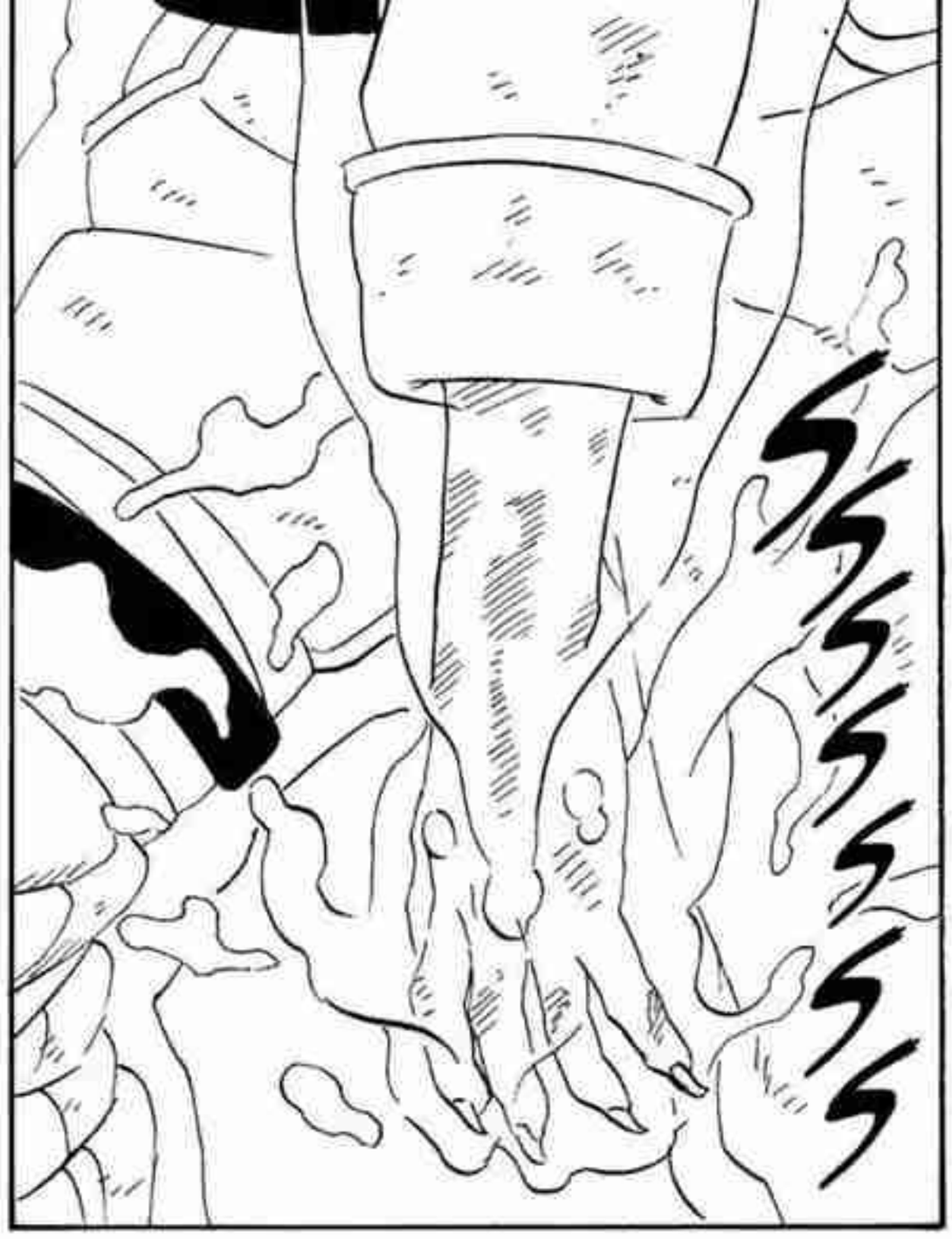
UNGH...

AGH...
SHF


I HAVE NO TIME TO DRAG THIS OUT.
IT'S EATING ME AWAY...

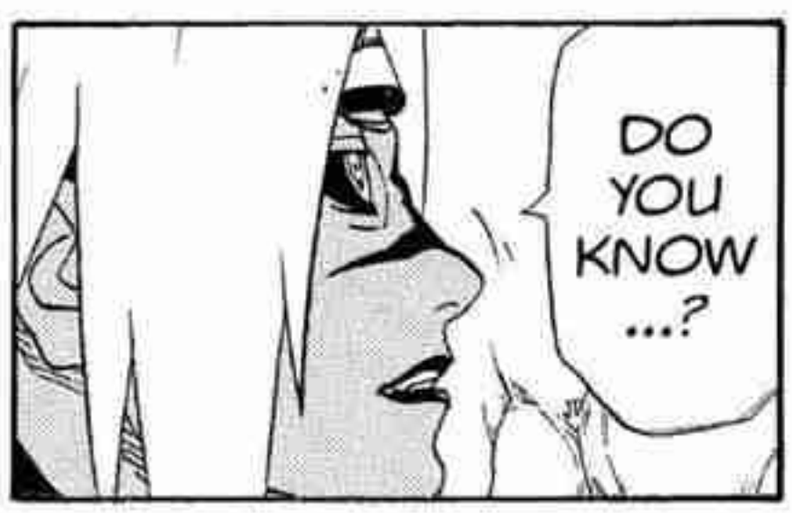

IF YOU KEEP YOUR CURSE MARK IN A RELEASED STATE FOR TOO LONG IT WILL ERODE YOUR BODY.

!



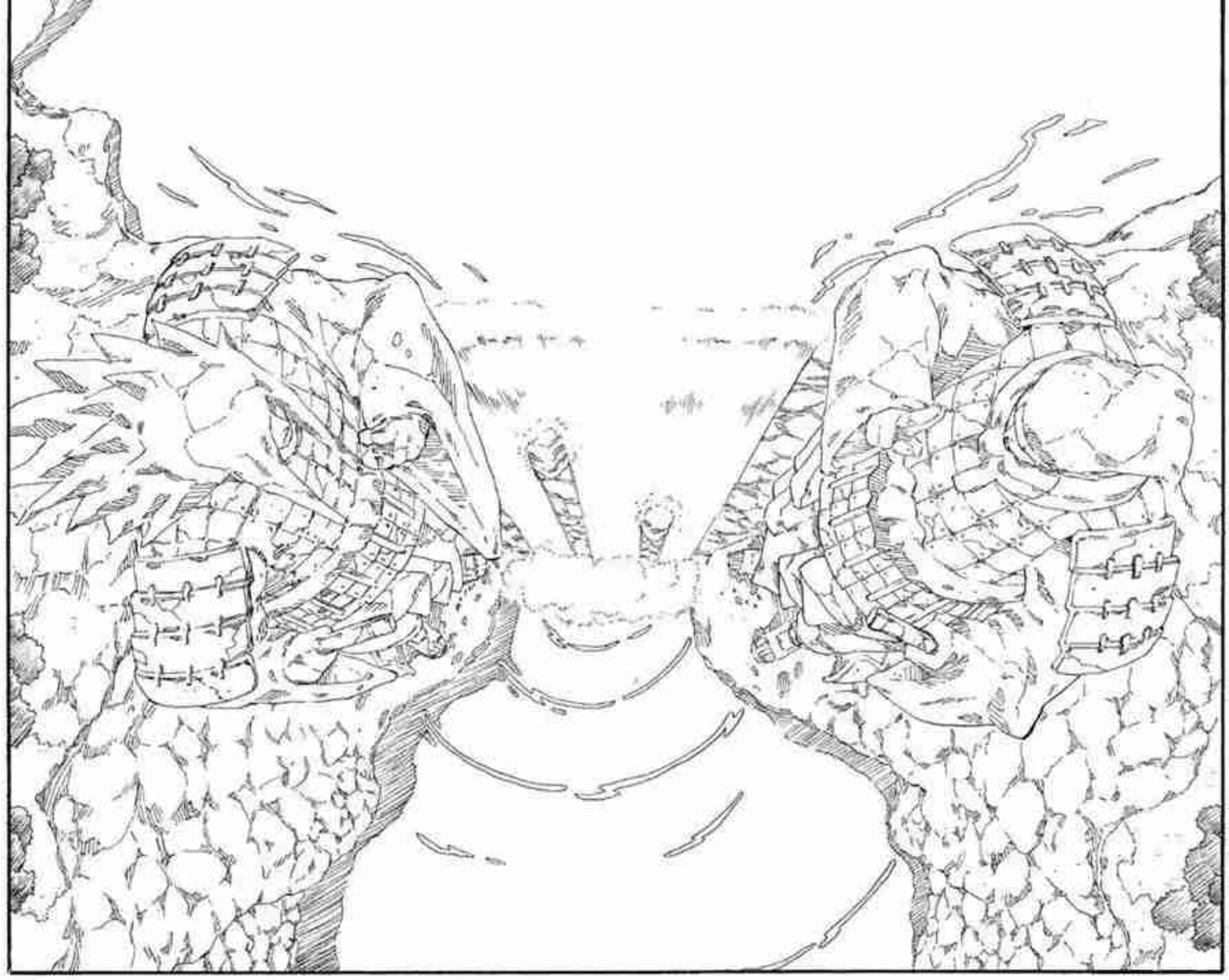
MY LEFT HAND... COMPLETELY NUMB...

...


DO YOU KNOW ...?

!
YOUR POWER...
LOOKS LIKE IT CARRIES SOME RISK WITH IT.

WE'RE AT THE BORDER THEY CALL THE FINAL VALLEY.



I SAID WE WERE DONE CHATTING, DIDN'T I?
OH... YEAH...

...

NARUTO?
A PERFECT SETTING... WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

...THIS LITTLE DUEL.
WELL. IT'S ABOUT TIME WE WRAP UP...

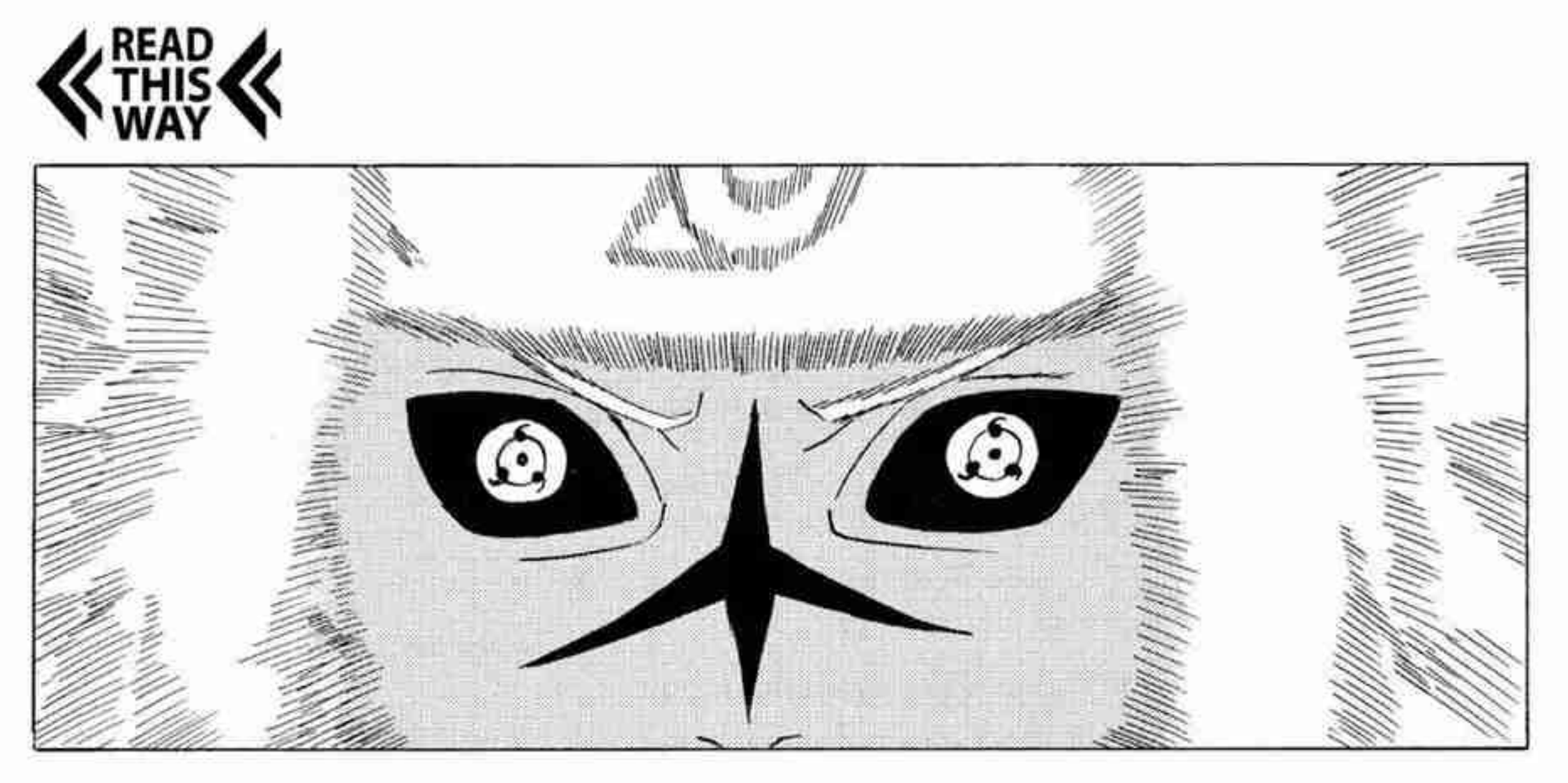
...

BATTLES TO DATE...

WHY DON'T YOU EVER TELL ME ANY-THING?
POW
A NEW LOOK!
SAKURA... YOU'RE HURTING ME...
I COULD HARDLY WAIT! IT'S SO

AND ALL THE

NOW...


READ THIS WAY

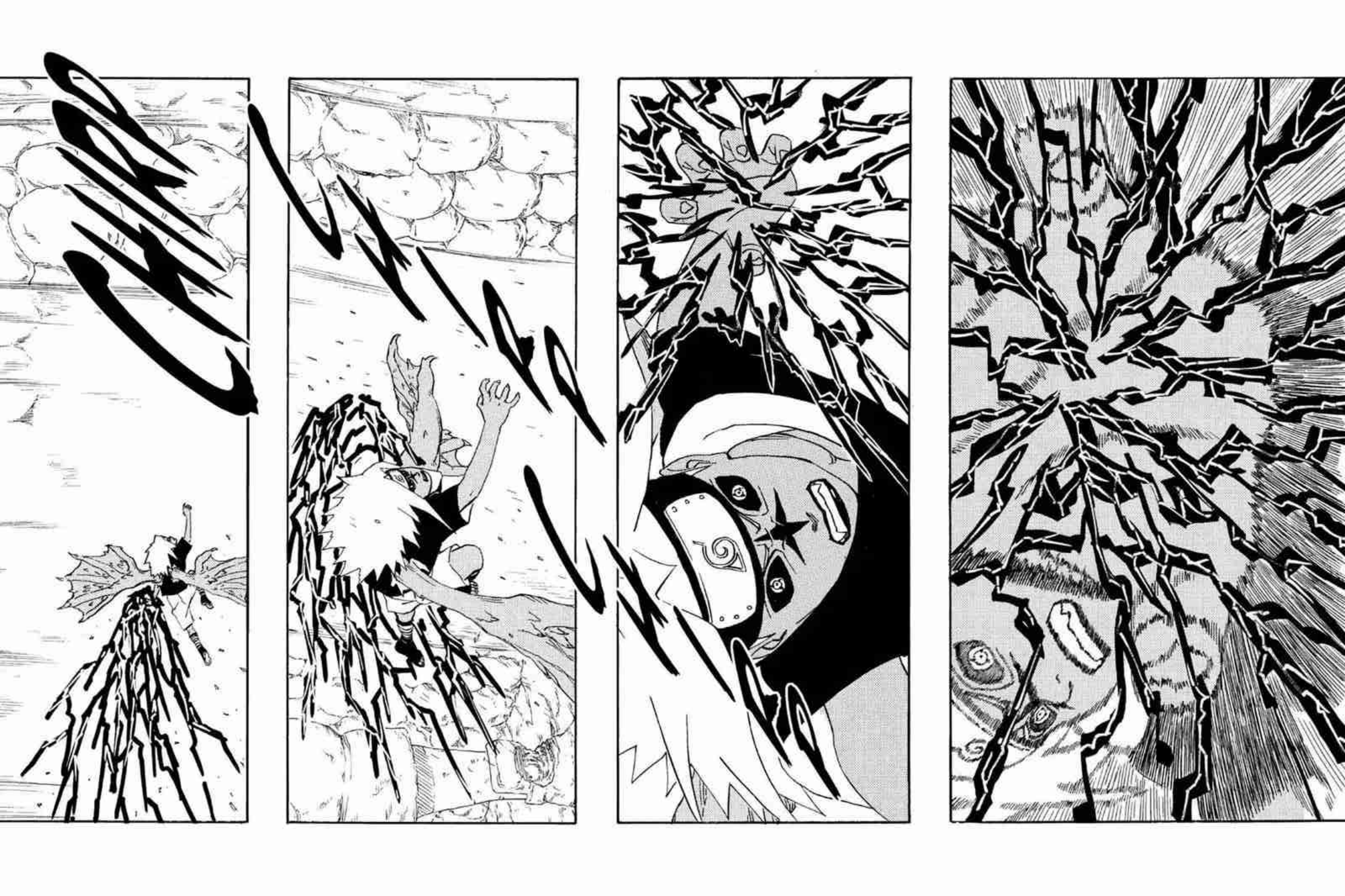
BLUP
PUP
...
BLOP
FWIP
FWIP

BUP
BUP
CHIDORI! 1000 BIRDS!!
BZZAK

FAS
SH
EEEEEEN
BWO
NNN
FSSH

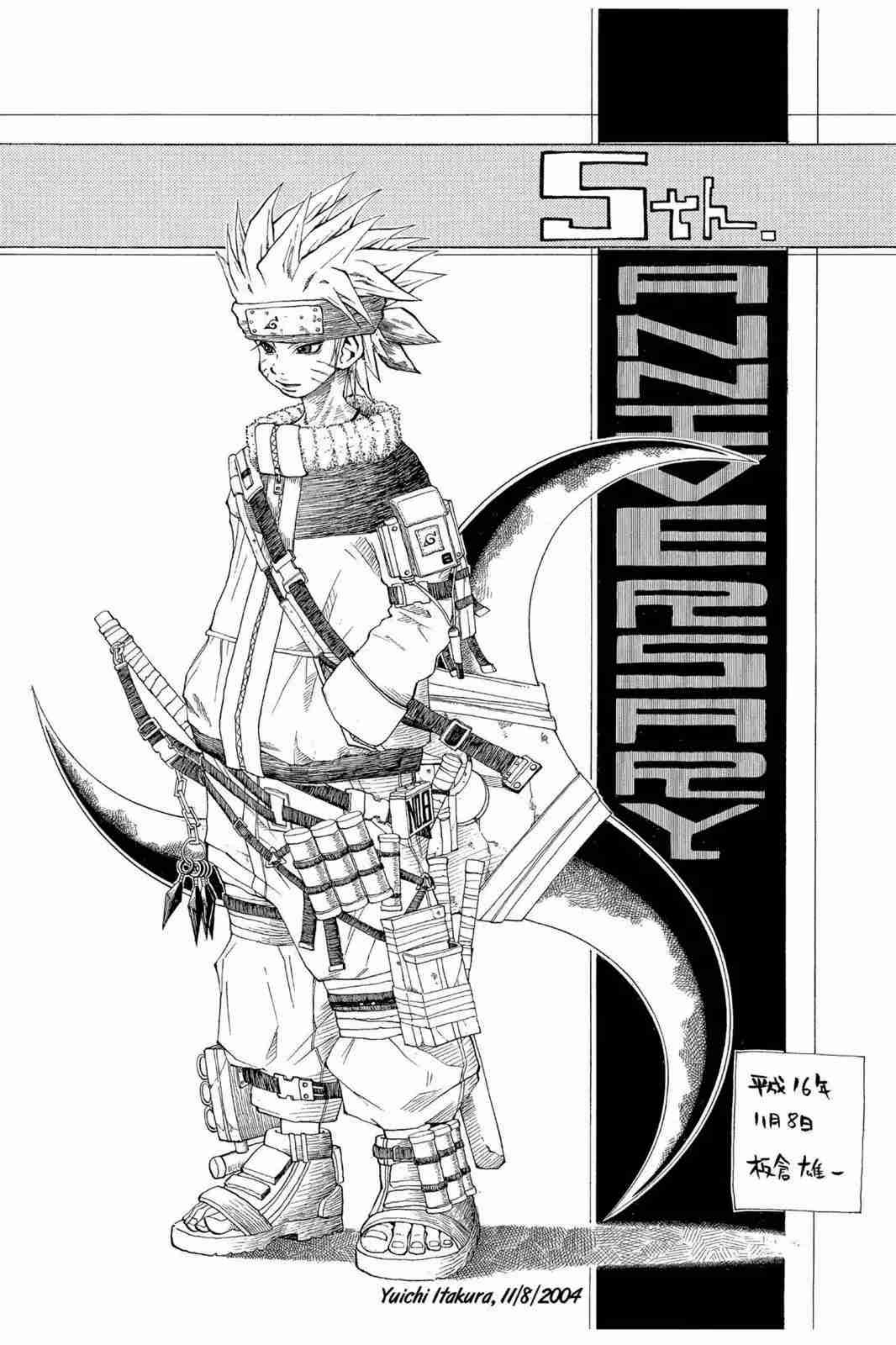
CHI-RP CHI-RP

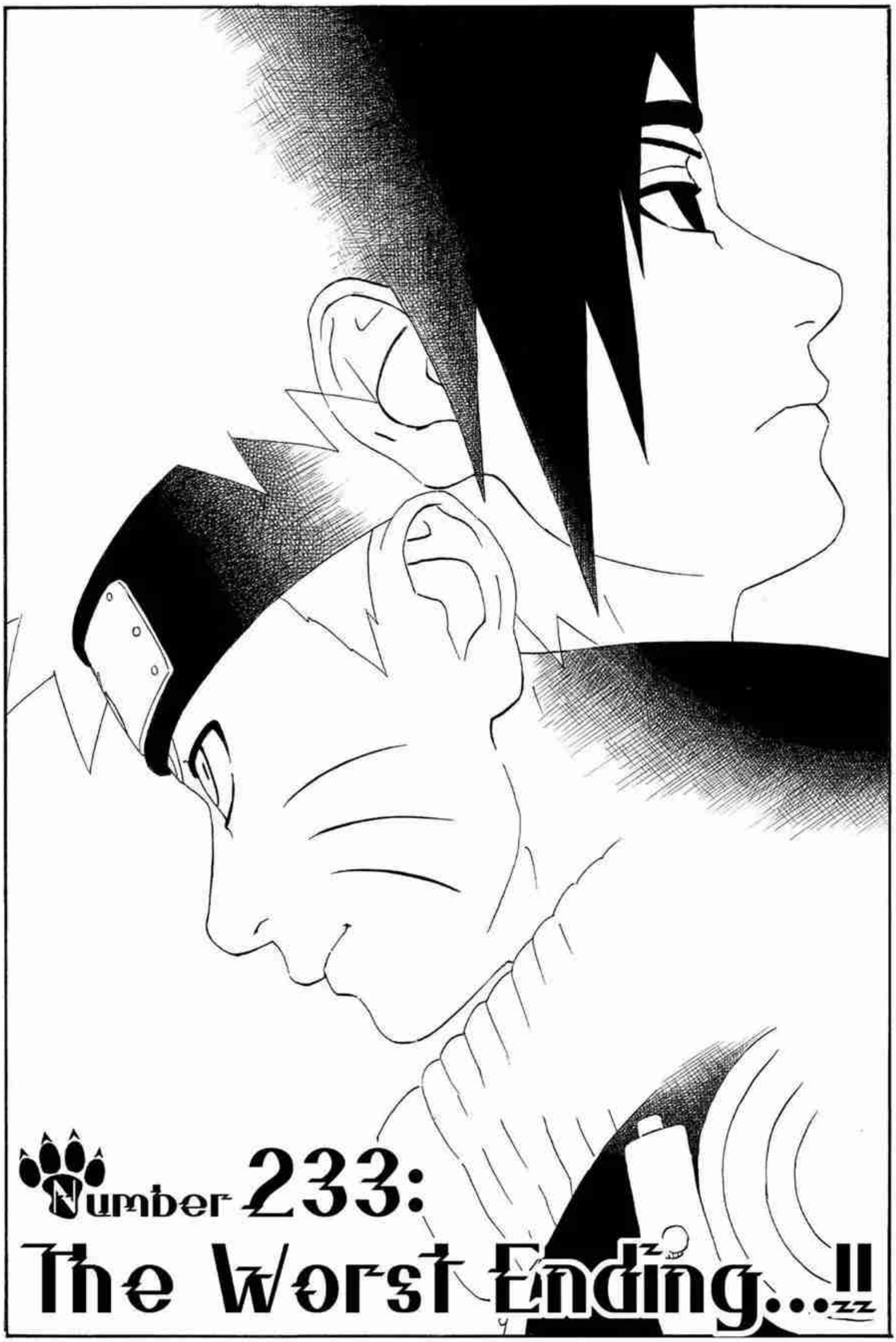
CHI-RP


ドガッ
ドガッ
ドガッ

RASENGAN!
SPIRAL
CHAKRA
SPHERE!!

CHIDORI!
1000
BIRDS!!


5th.
NINJA
WAY
平成16年
11月8日
板倉雄一
Yuichi Itakura, 11/8/2004


Number 233:
The Worst Ending...!!
zz

BZZ
ZZZ
FWA
SH
SKRRA
UGH!
URK!

SHAK

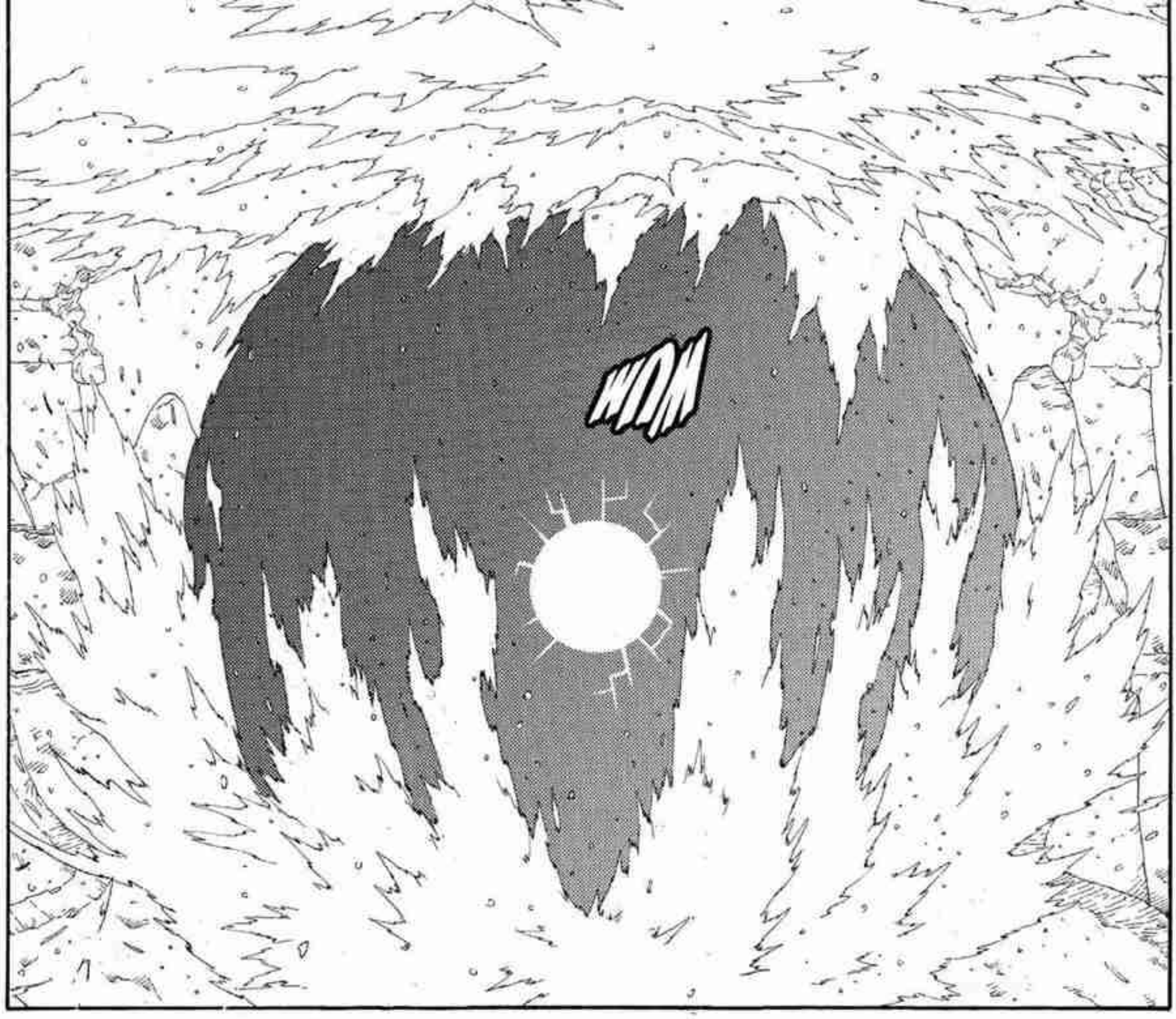
TWIKK
!!

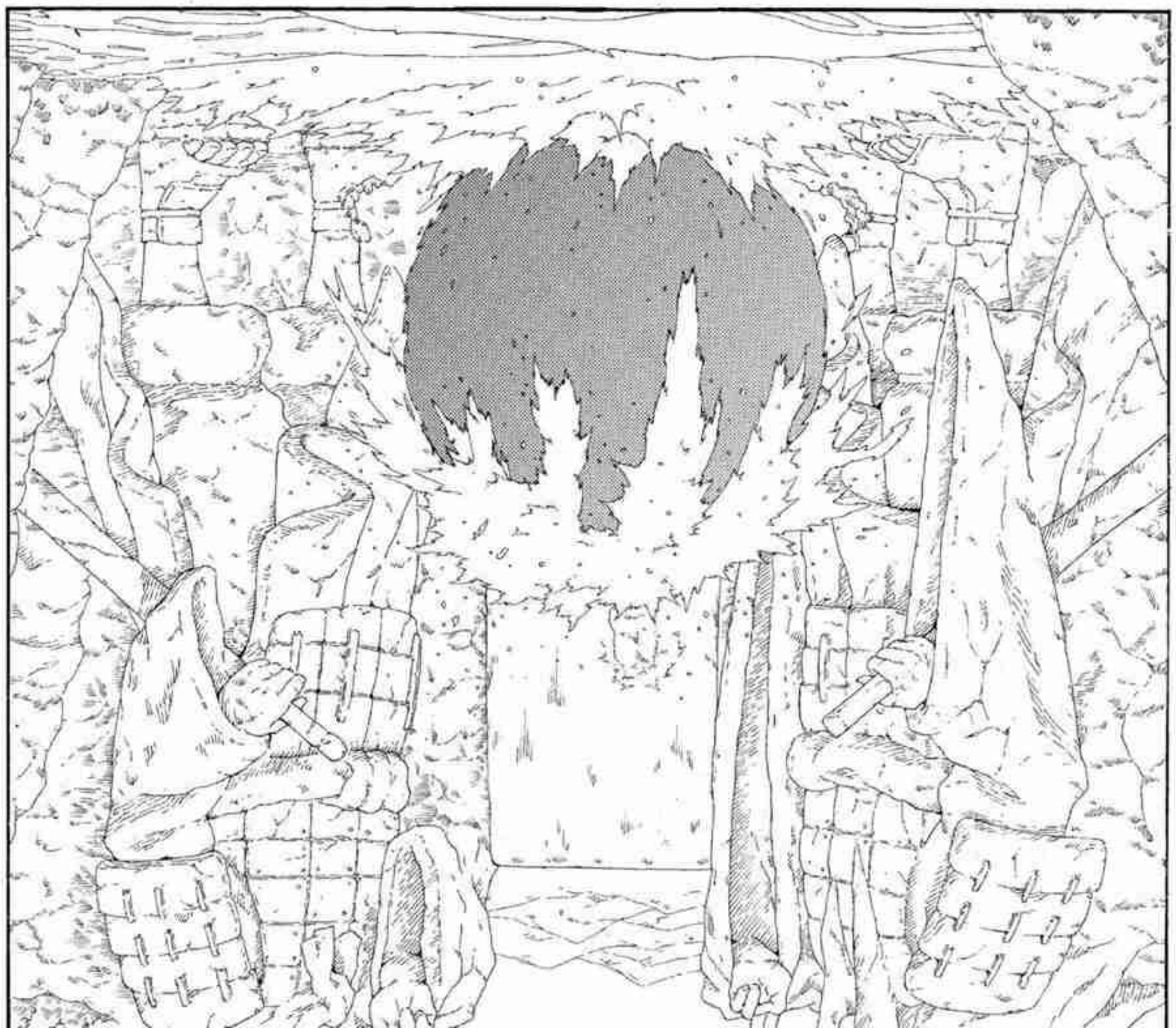
ZZ
ZA
A

SPAP
M

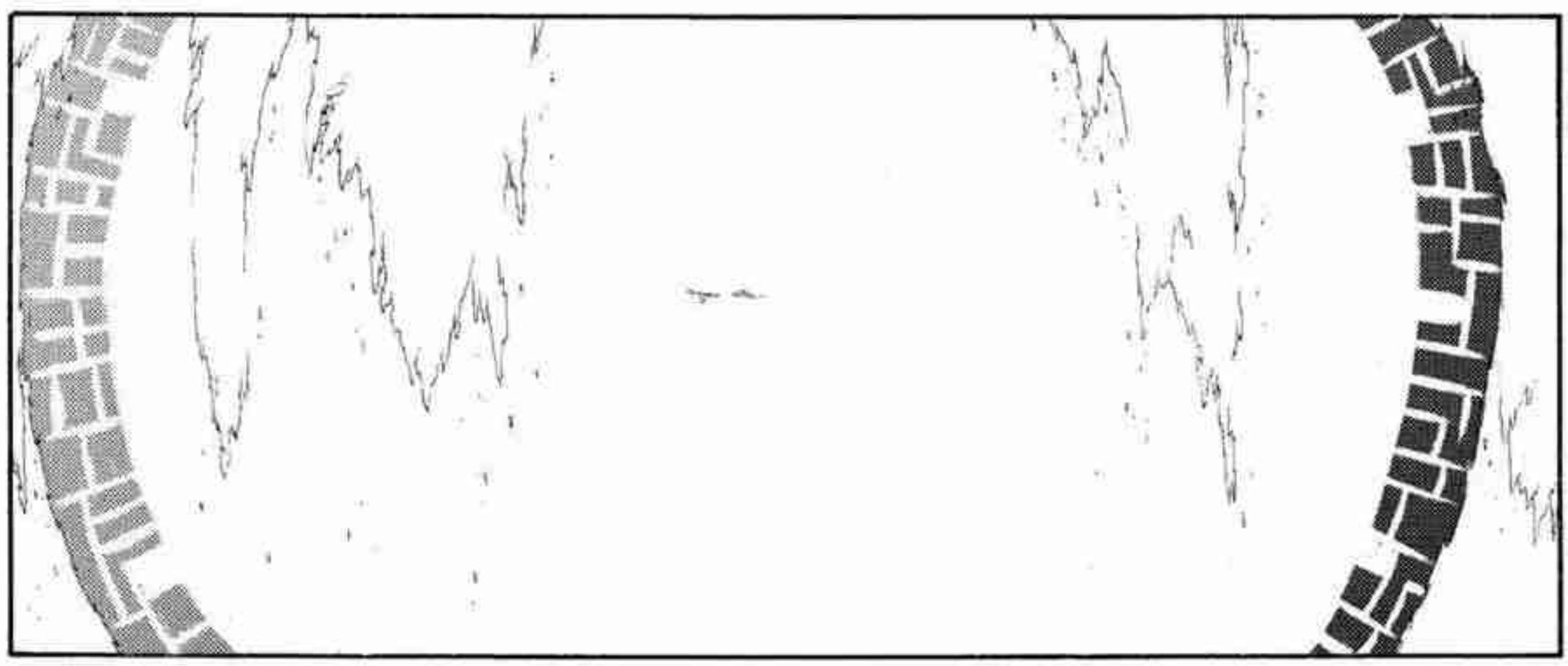
THIS IS BAD!!
THIS CHAKRA!!
FUU
OO
SH

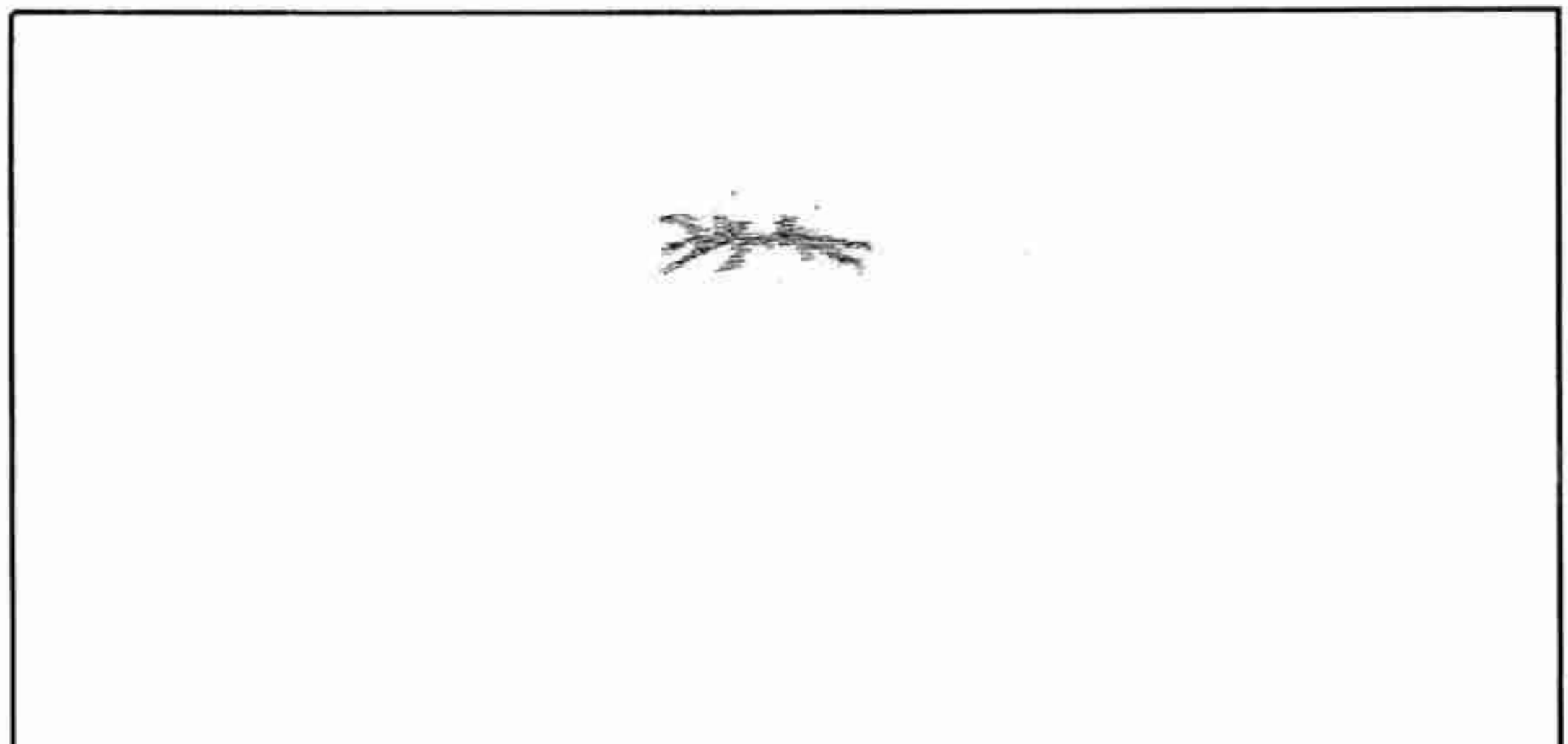
ドガ

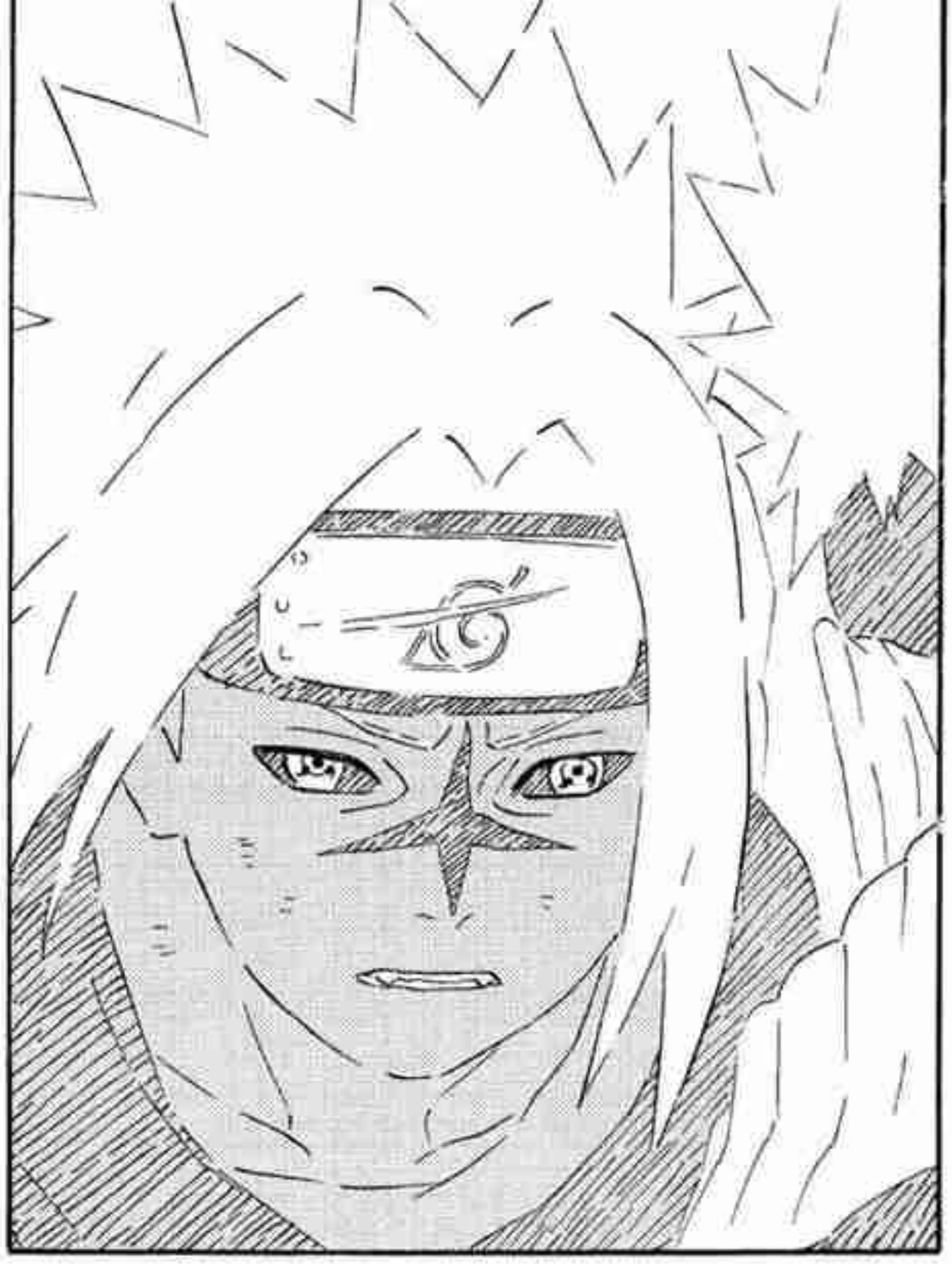

WOM

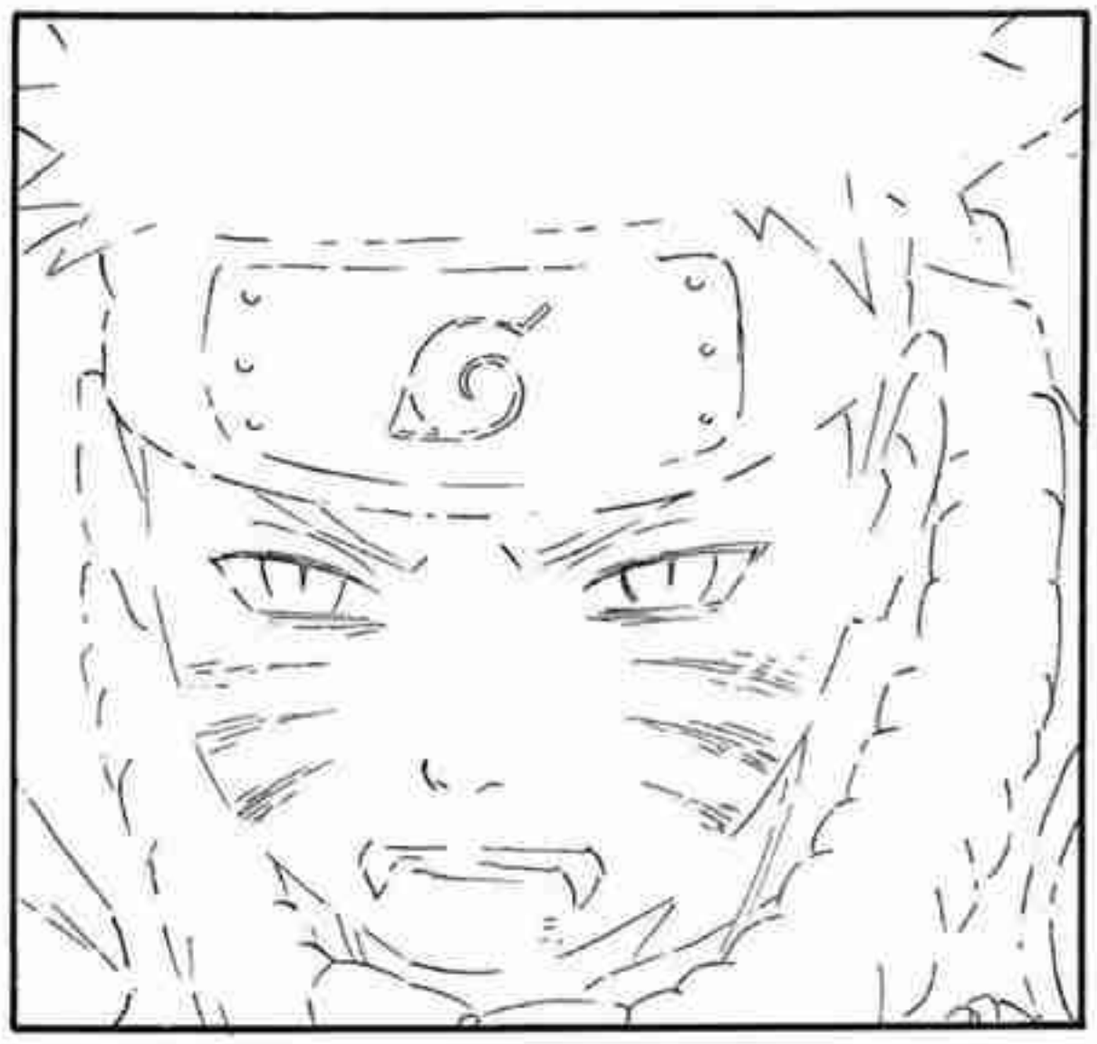


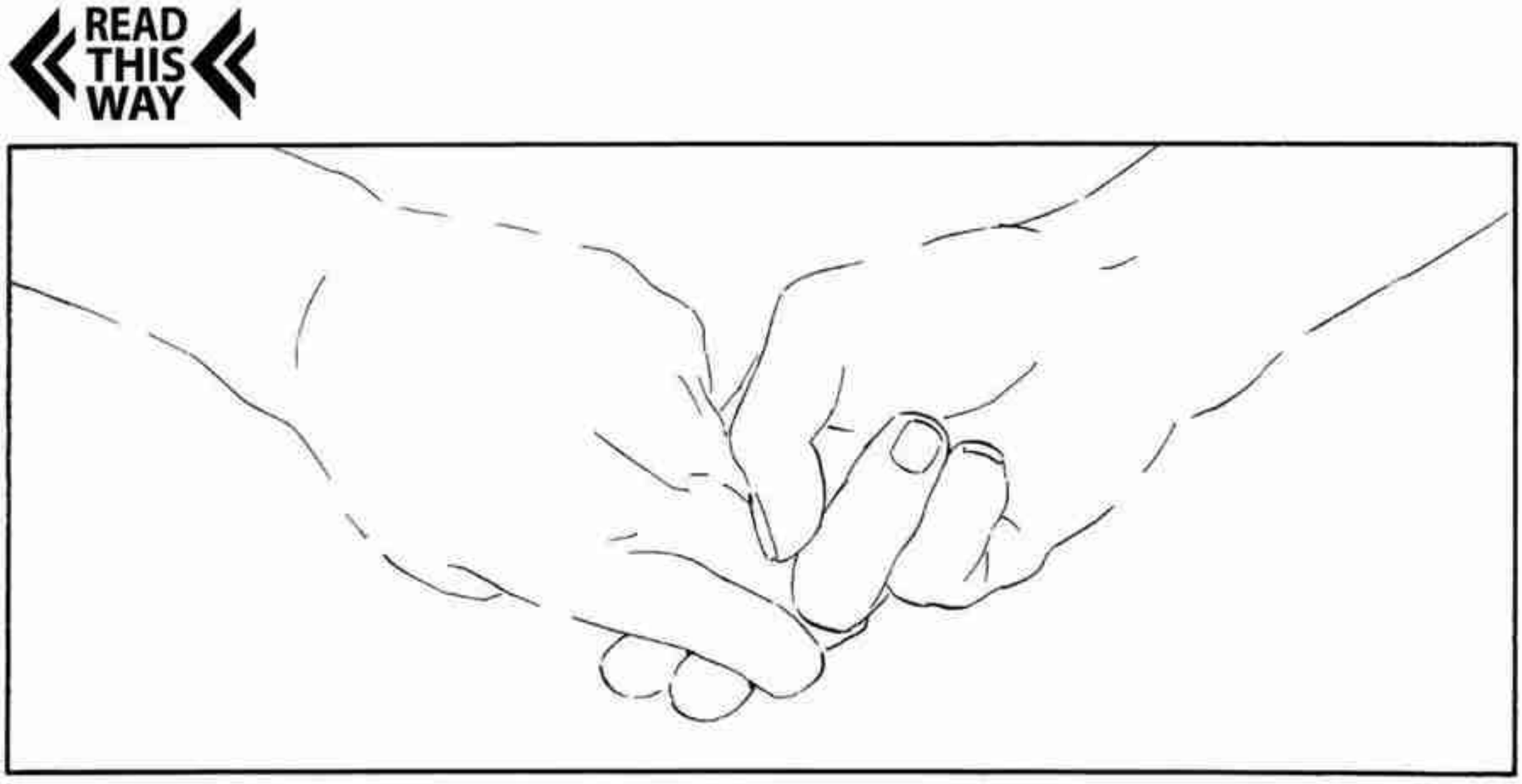
CHAK
CHAK

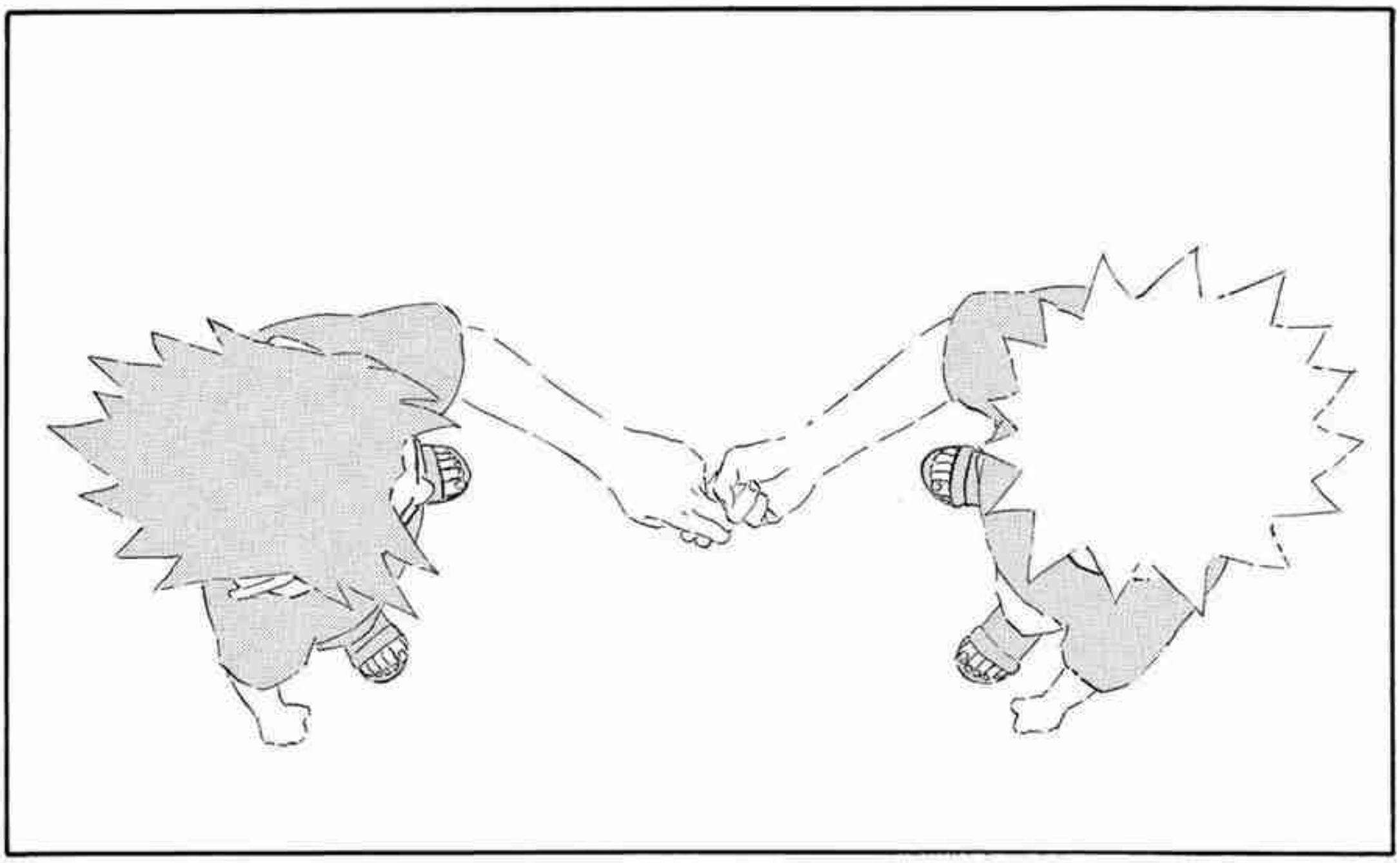


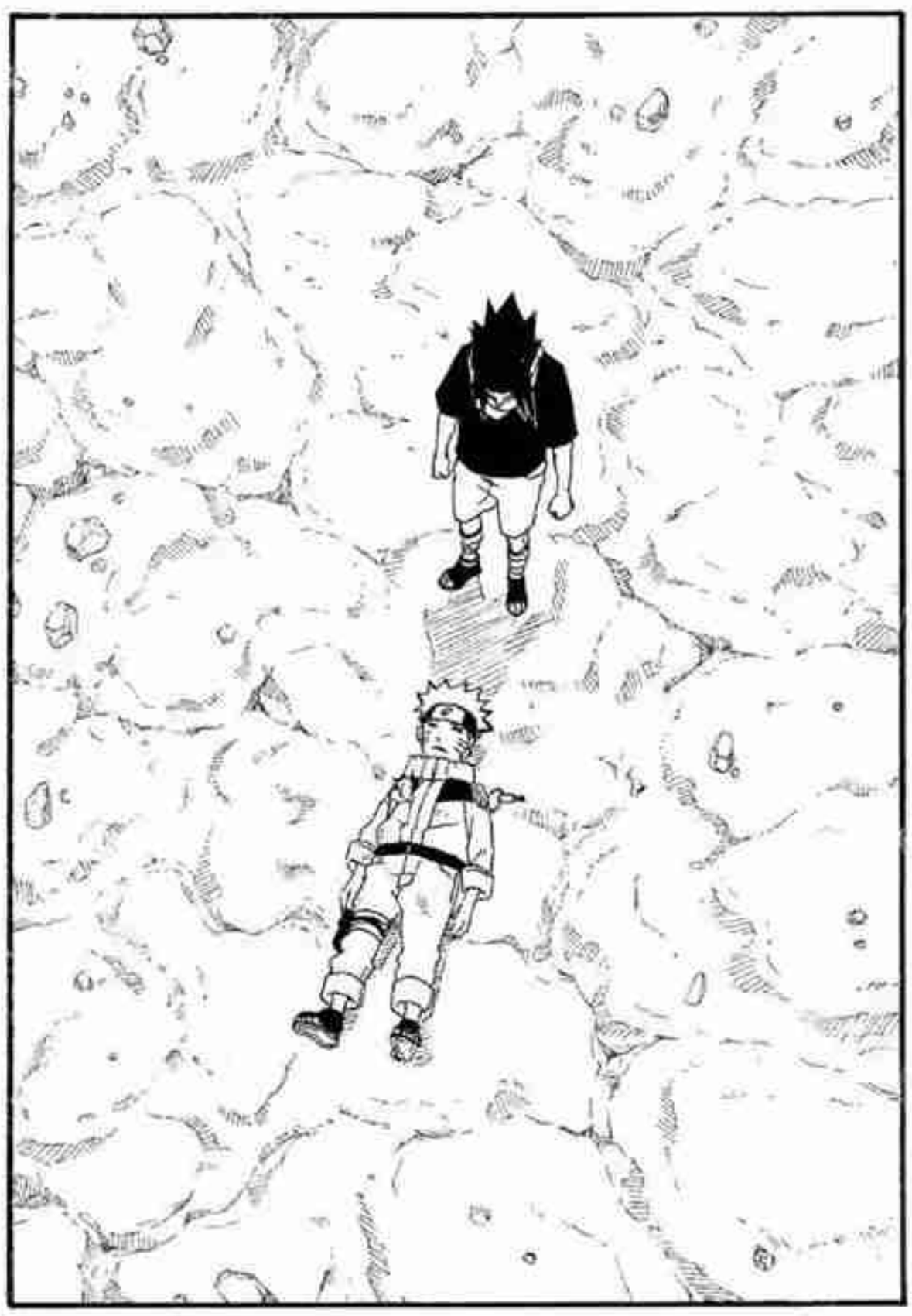


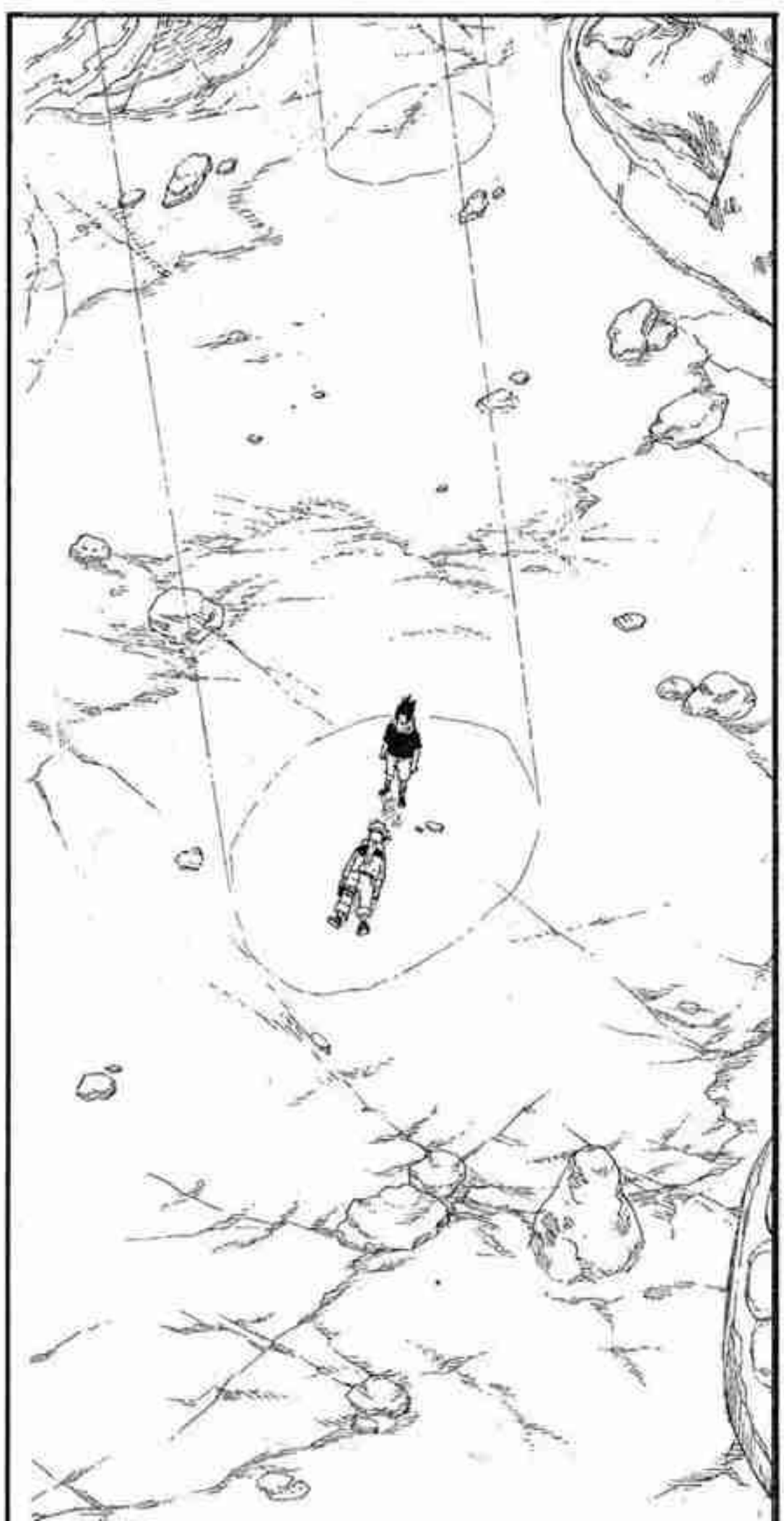


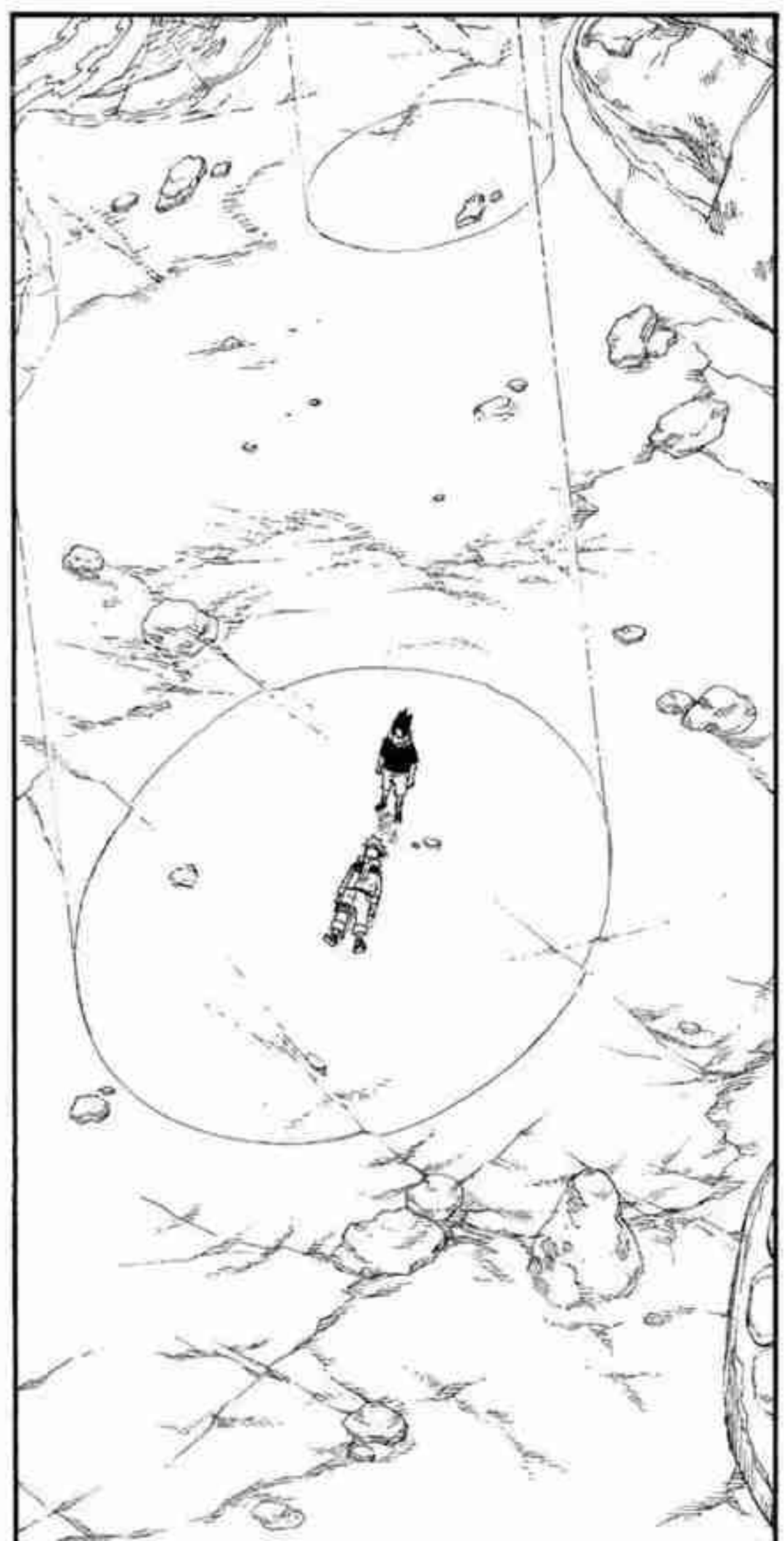


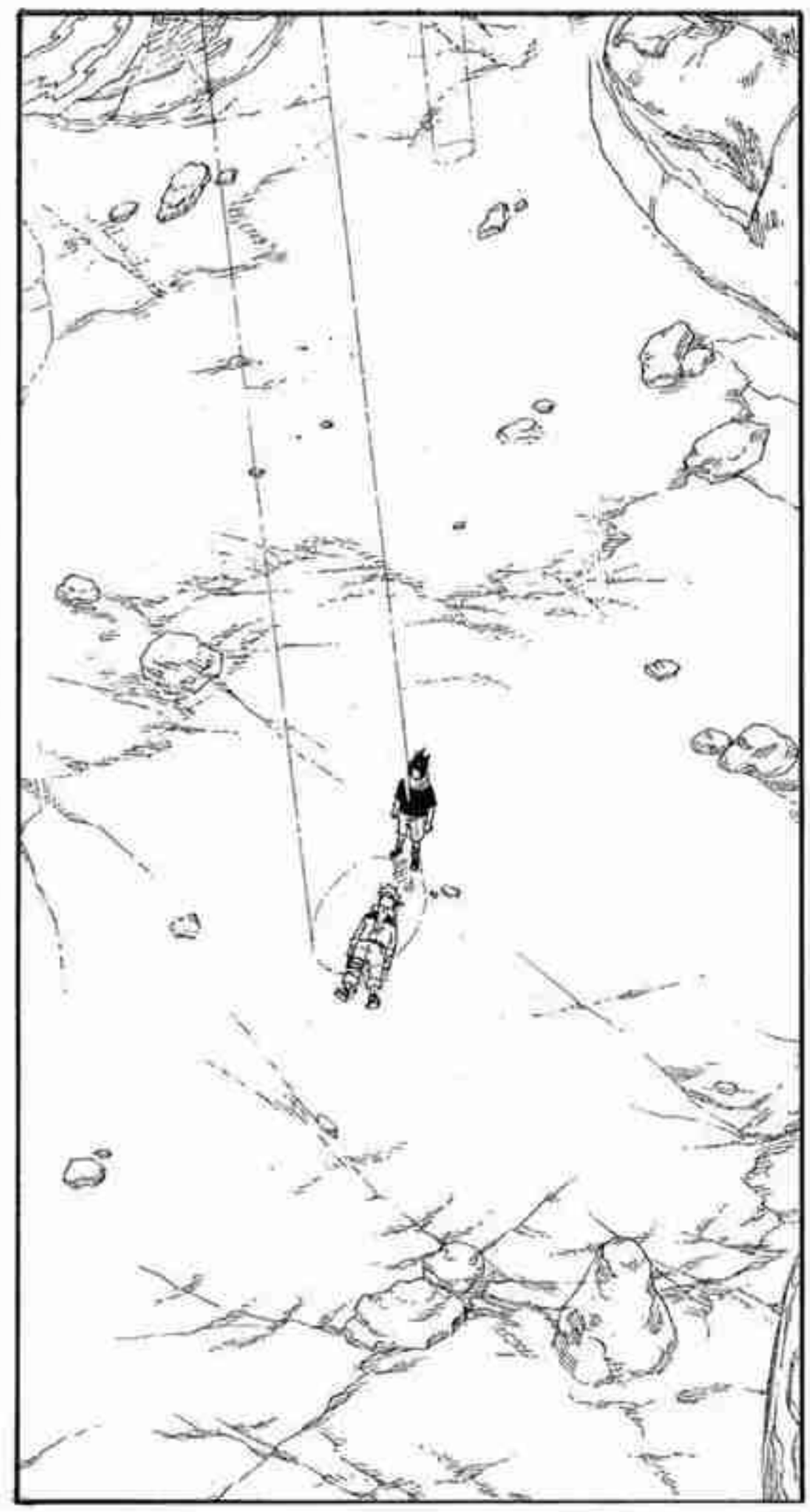

READ
THIS
WAY





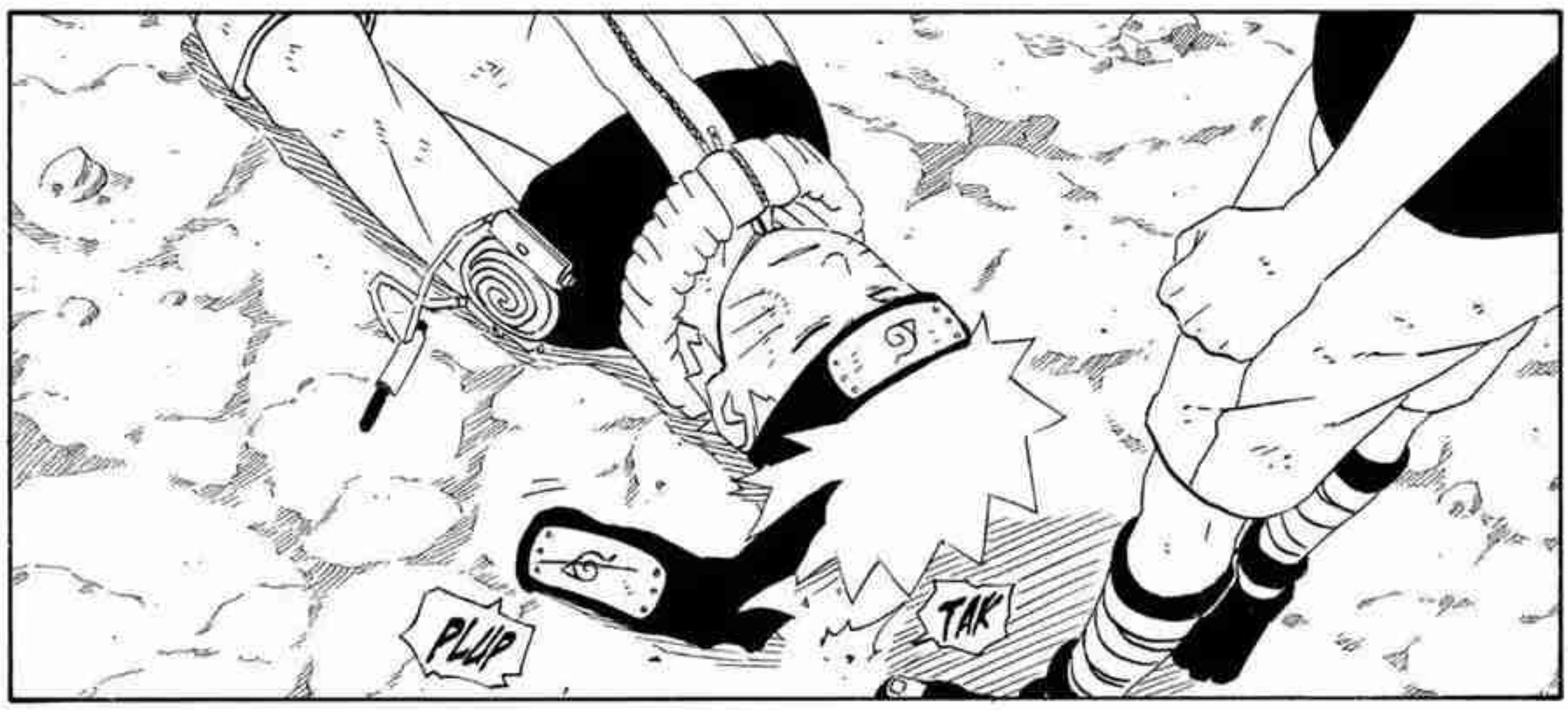


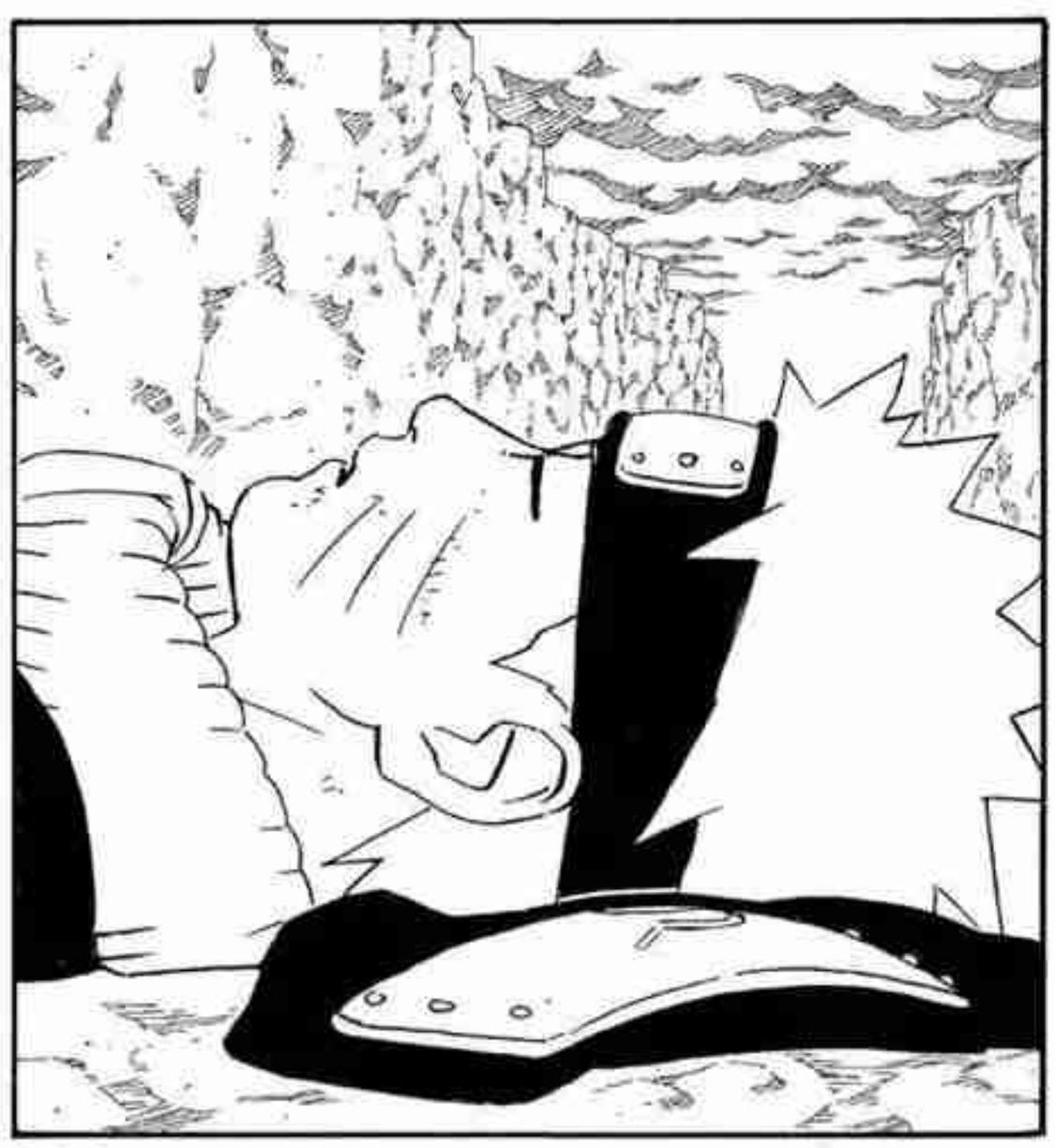




SHUF

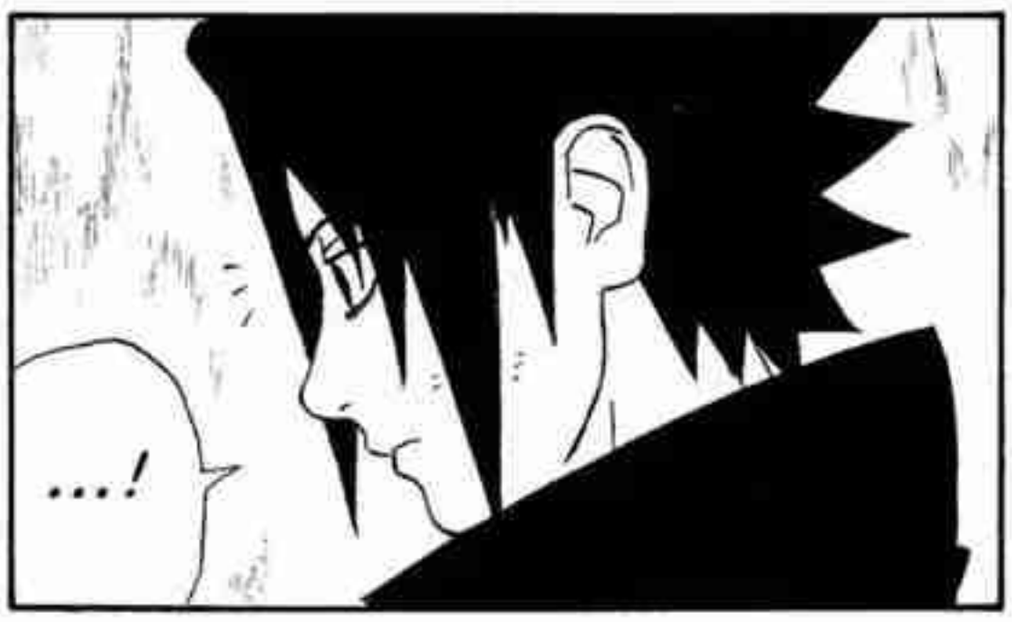
SLIP

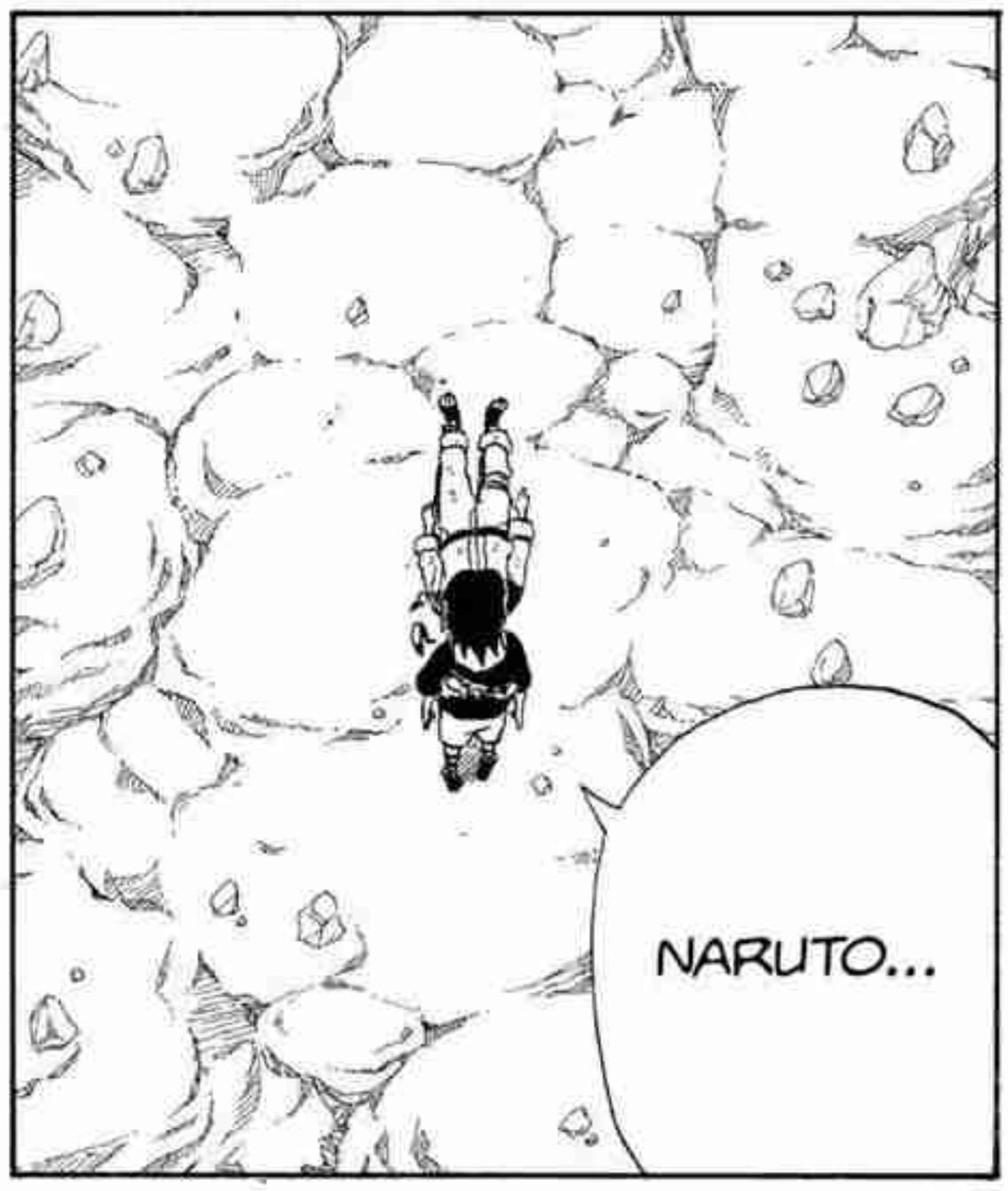

PLUP
TAK

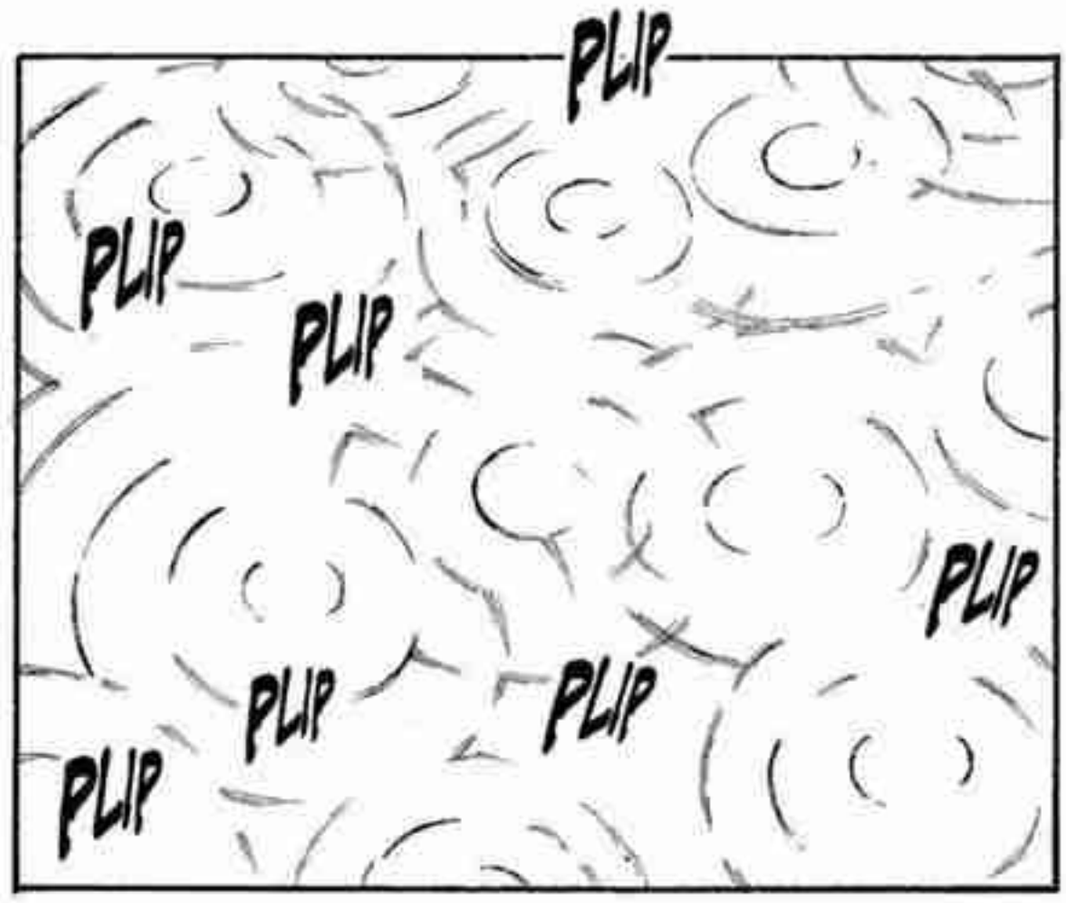


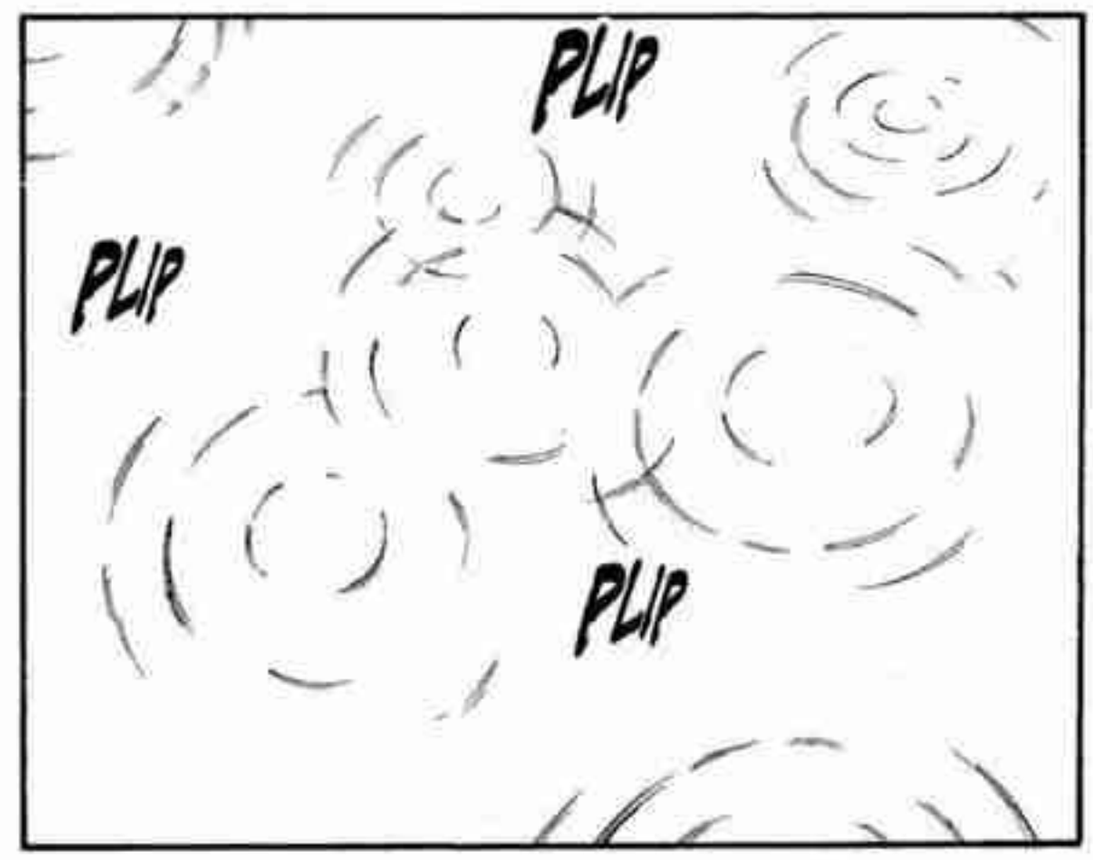
NARUTO
...

...

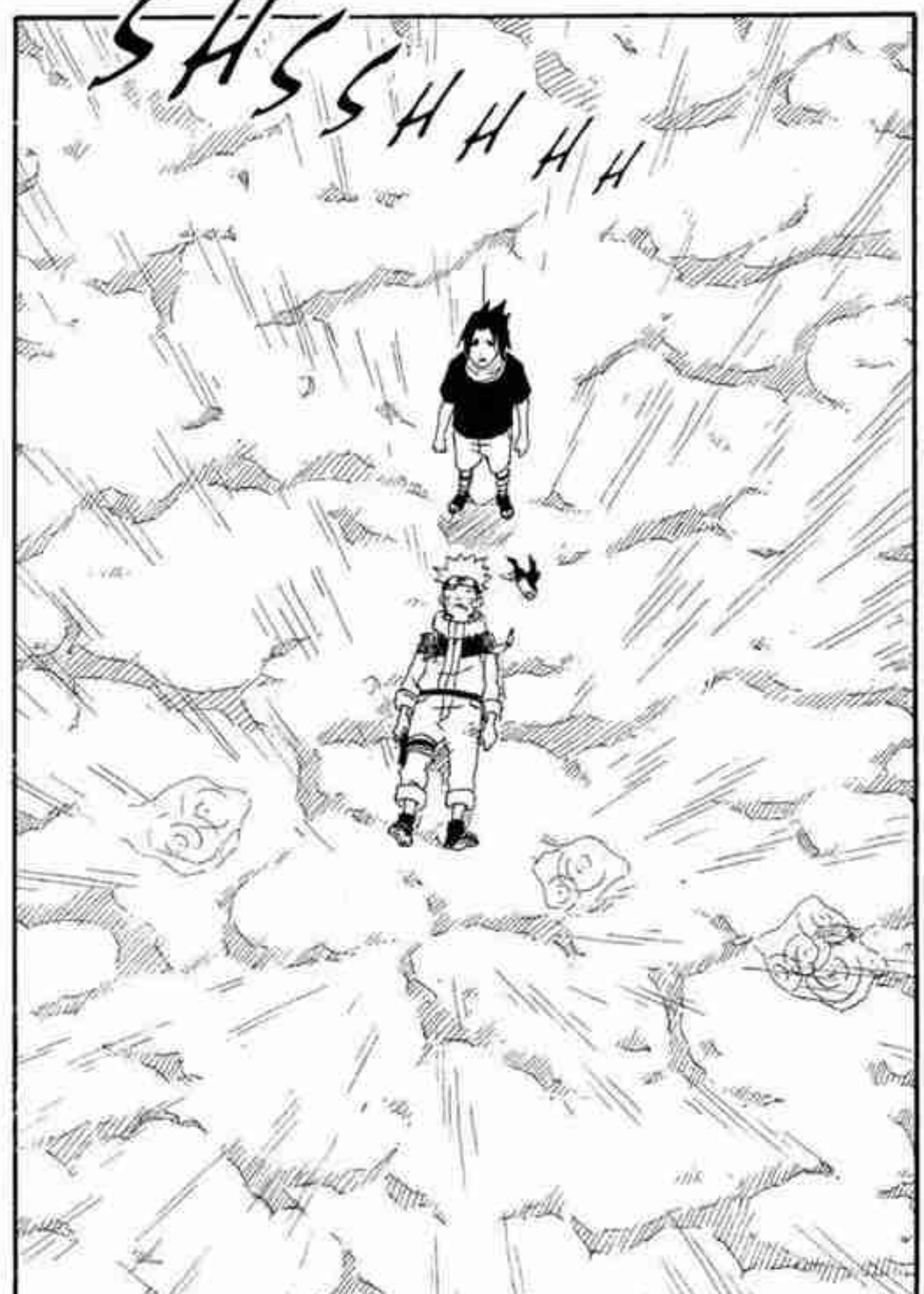

...!


NARUTO...


PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP


PLIP
PLIP
PLIP

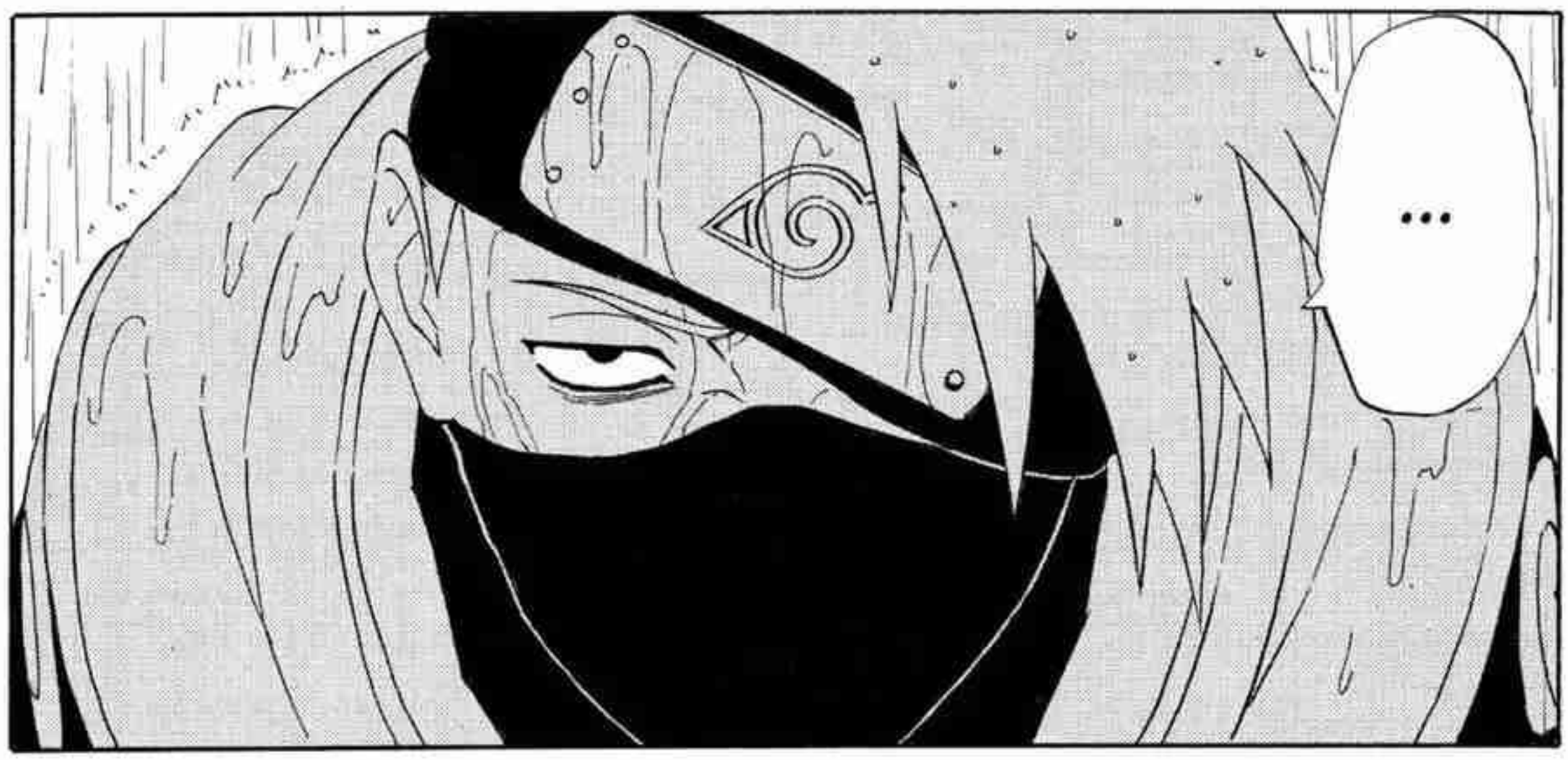
KSHSSHHHH


SHSSHHHH

AGH...
KGAAH
SLUMP
SHSSH
...
THOB

SHSSHHH

FLOOD SH
REALLY CLOSE...
WE'RE OKAY!
THIS WAY!!
CAN YOU STILL HOLD THE SCENT?!
IT'S RAIN-ING...
TUMP
TAK
SPASH
TUP
TUP
TUP
TUP


...

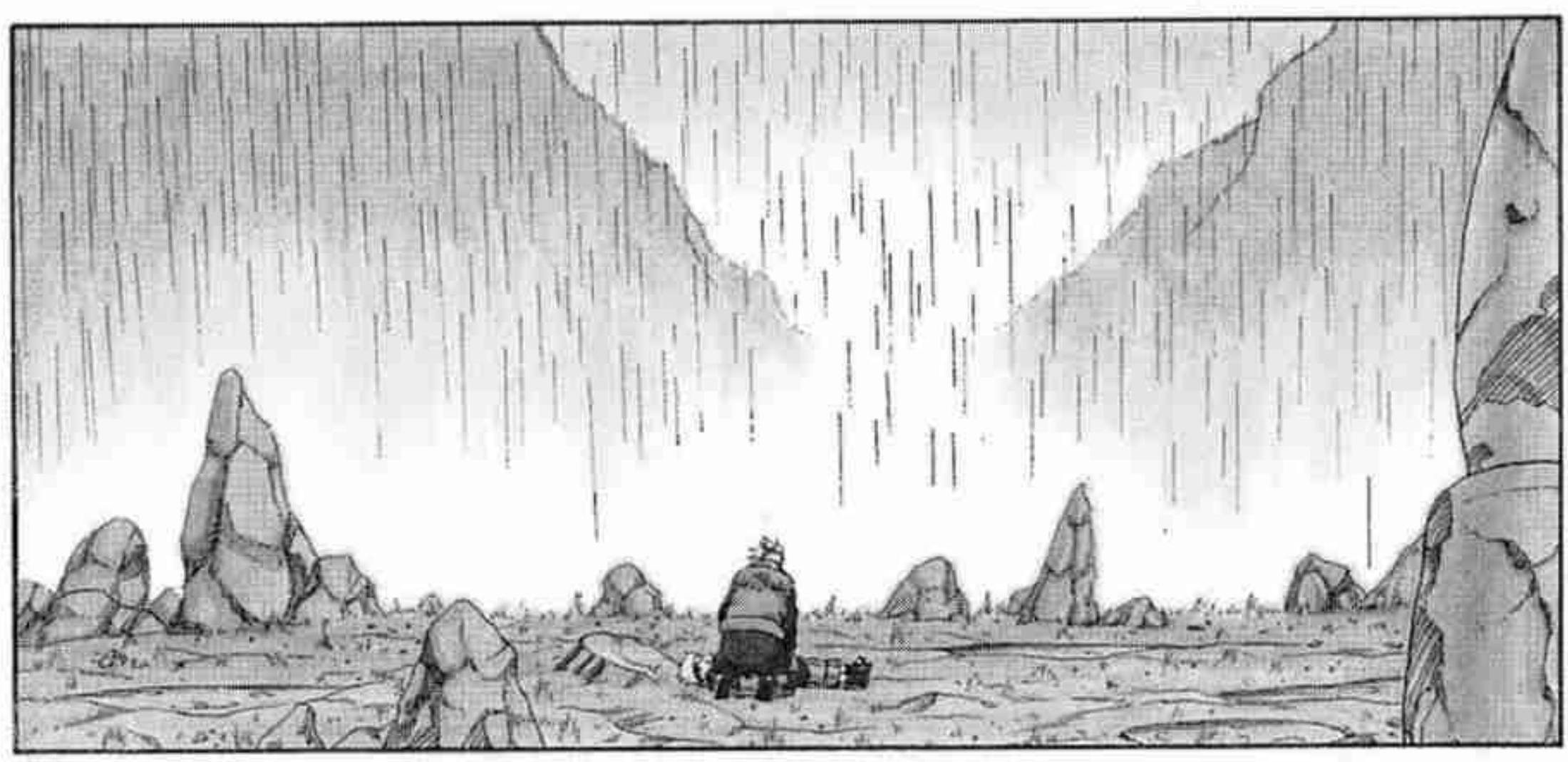
SHSSHHHH
TOO LATE...

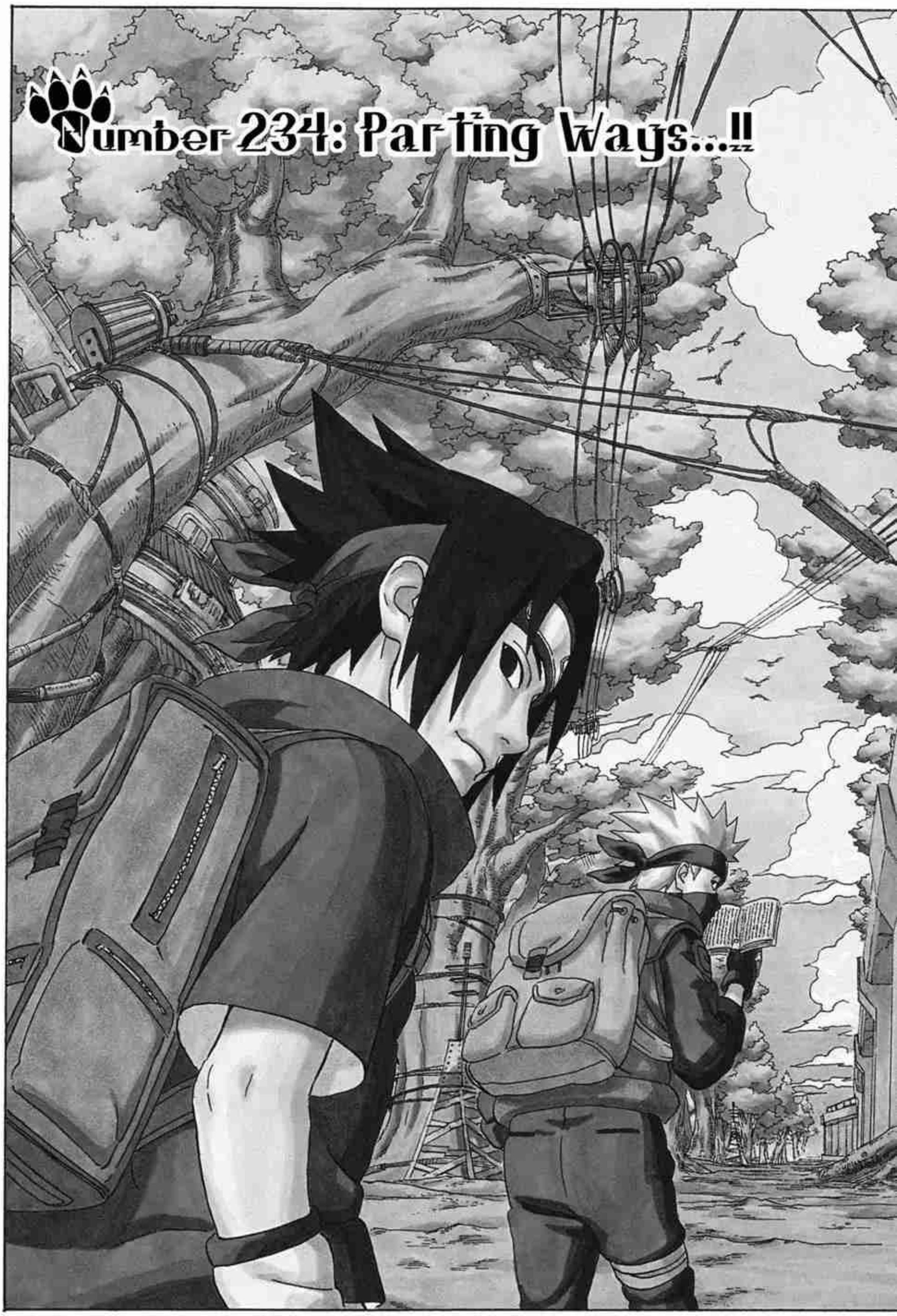
Congratulations on the 5th Anniversary!!

'04.11.09 村上正樹.

Masaki Murakami

Number 234: Parting Ways...!!



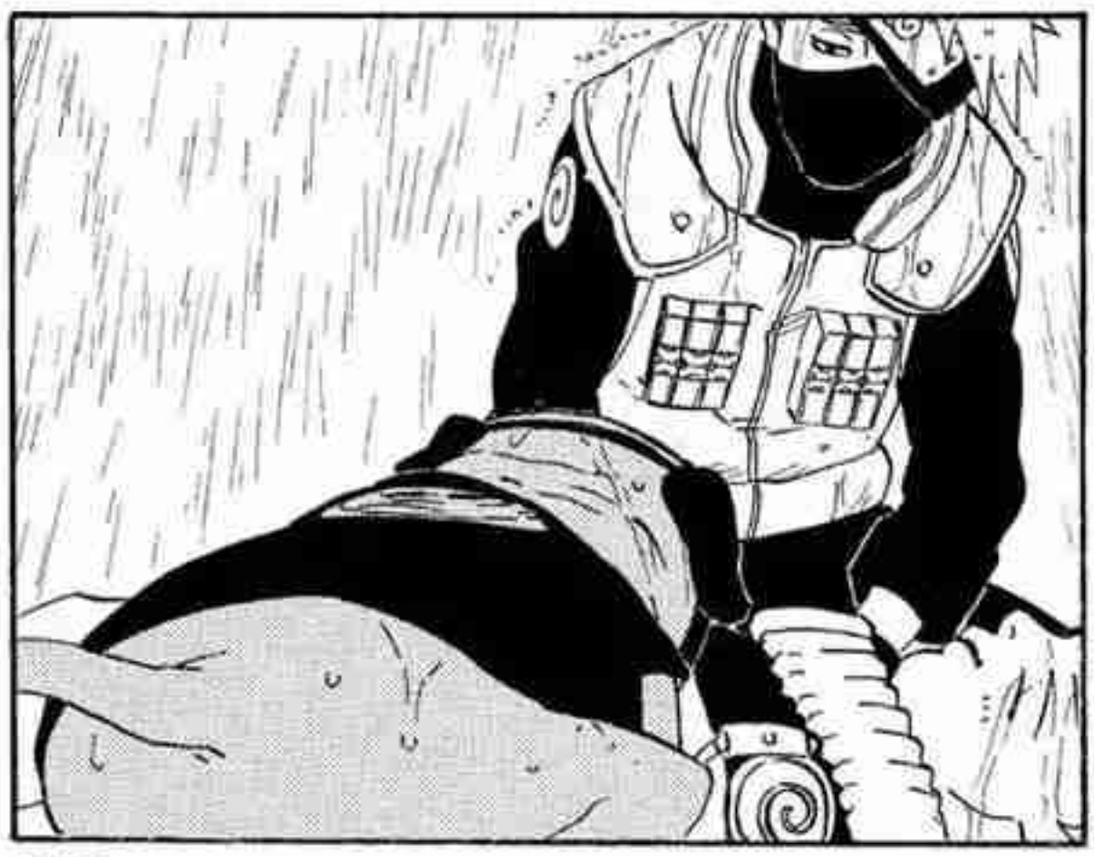

Number 234: Parting Ways...!!

BOM
GN

NARUTO ...
SHSSHHH

...

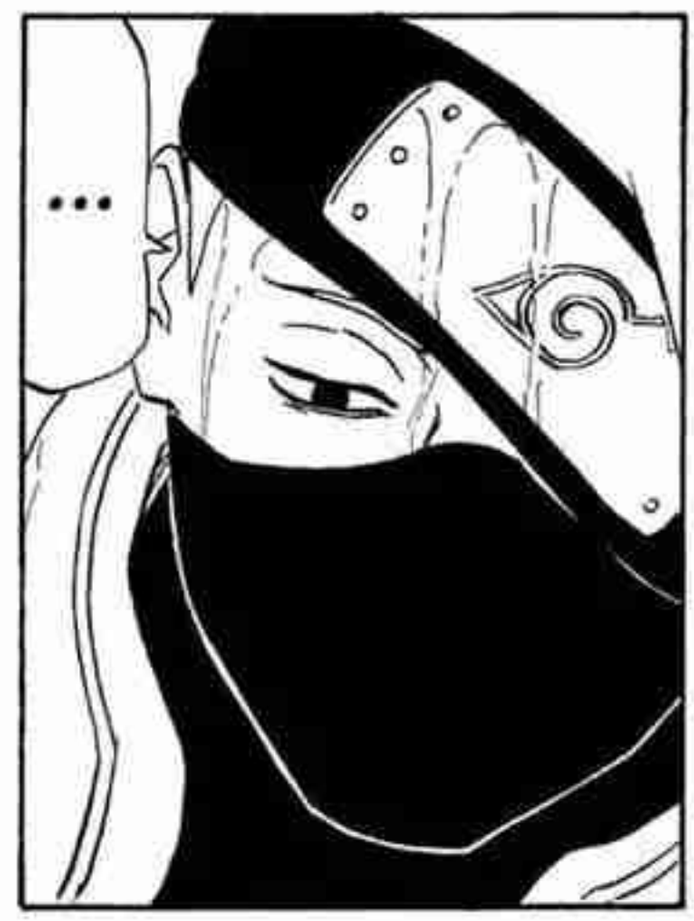
WHY... DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN?



SNFF SNFF

IT'S SASUKE'S.

...


...

SKISH

SHK

SHFF
I COULDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME. I'M SORRY.

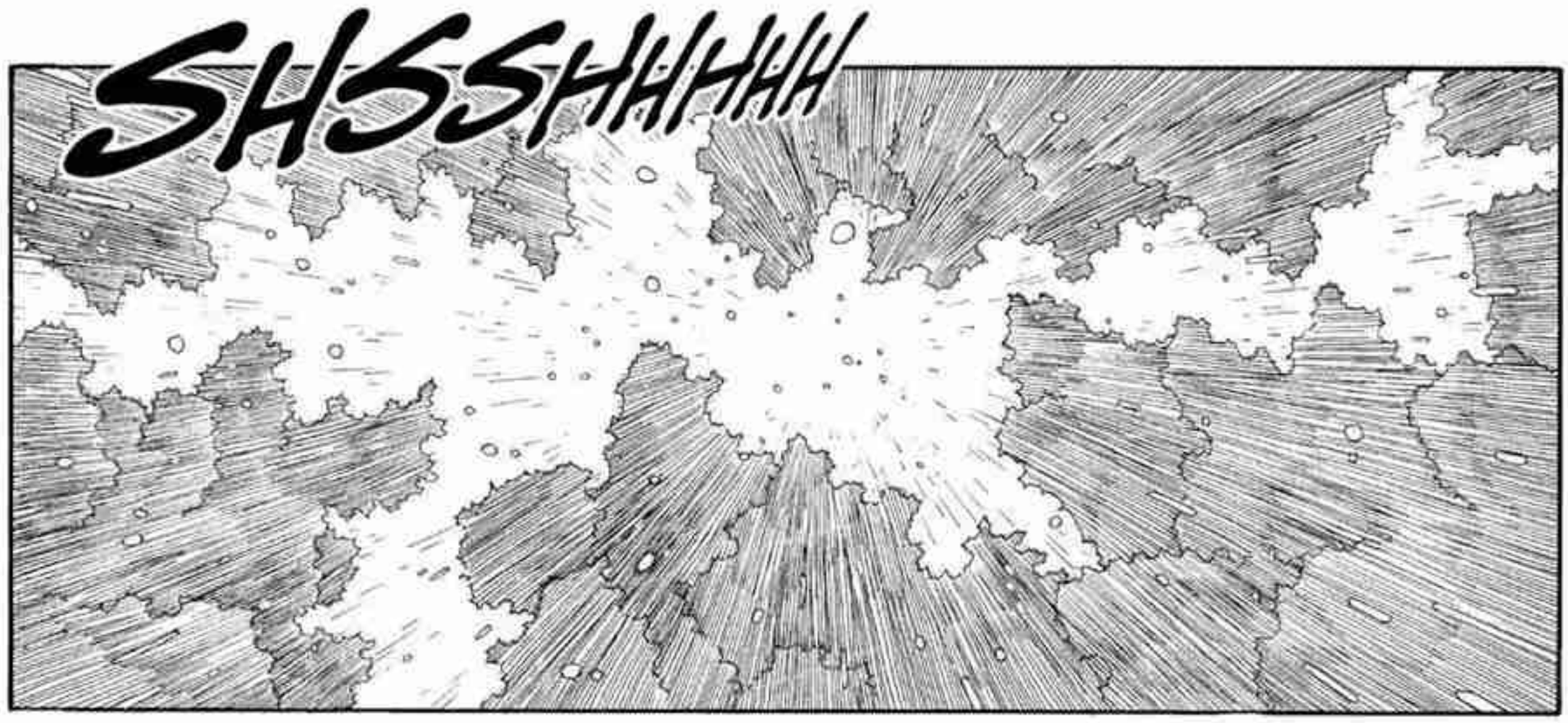
SHSSHHH
FUP

...

NARUTO.
SHSSHHH

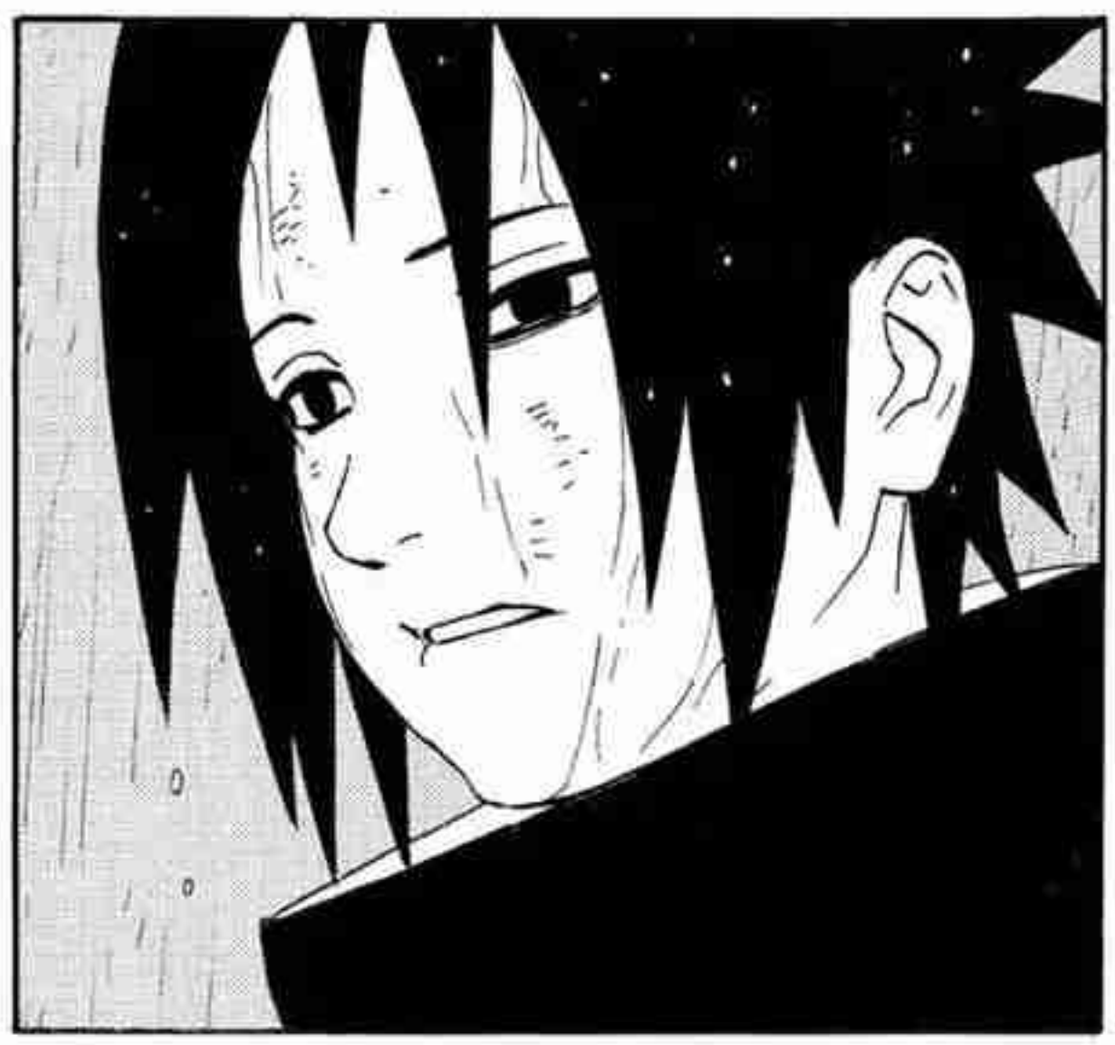
KNOWING YOU...
YOU REALLY GAVE IT YOUR ALL... DIDN'T YOU.

SASUKE
...

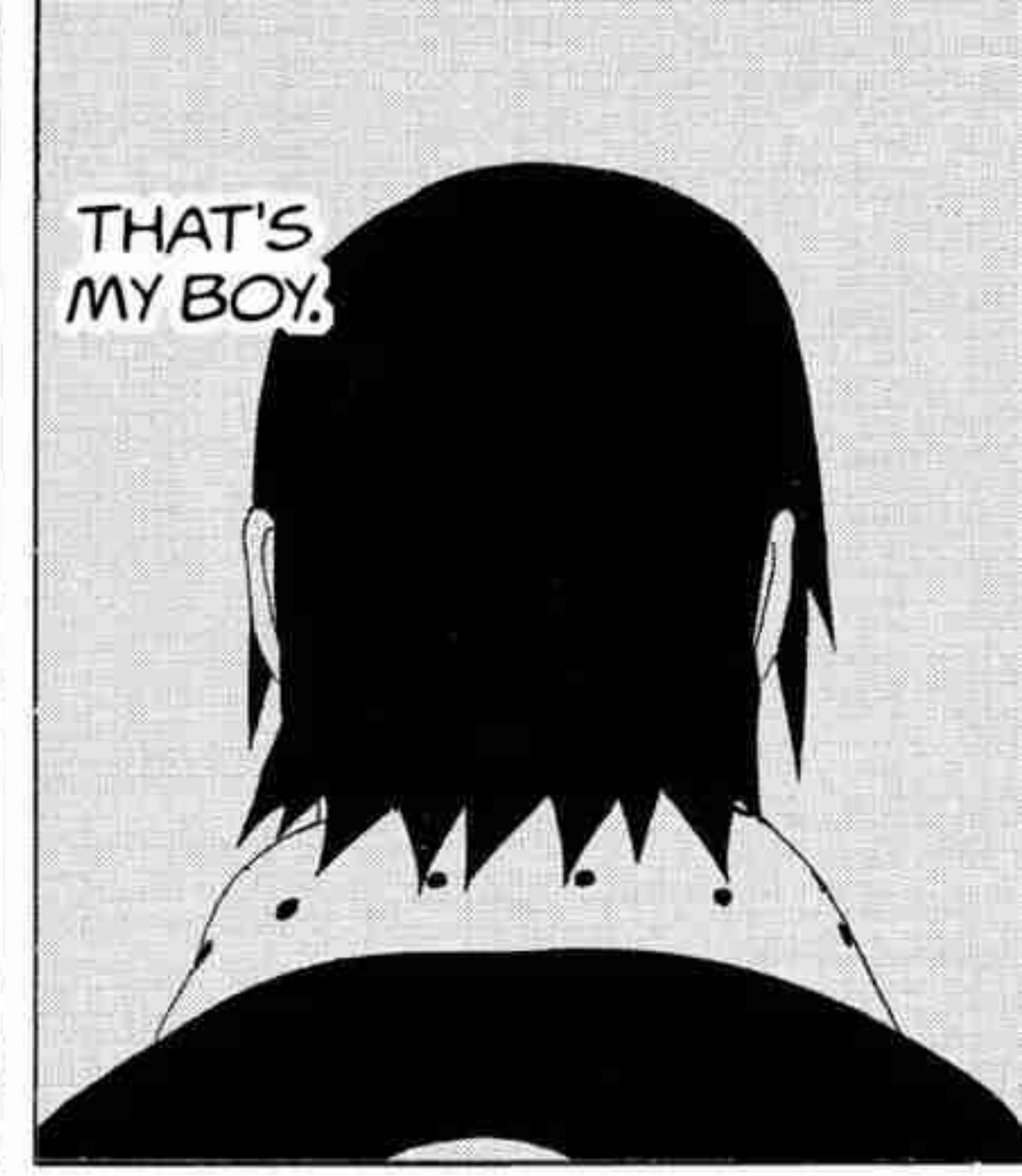

SHSSHHHHH

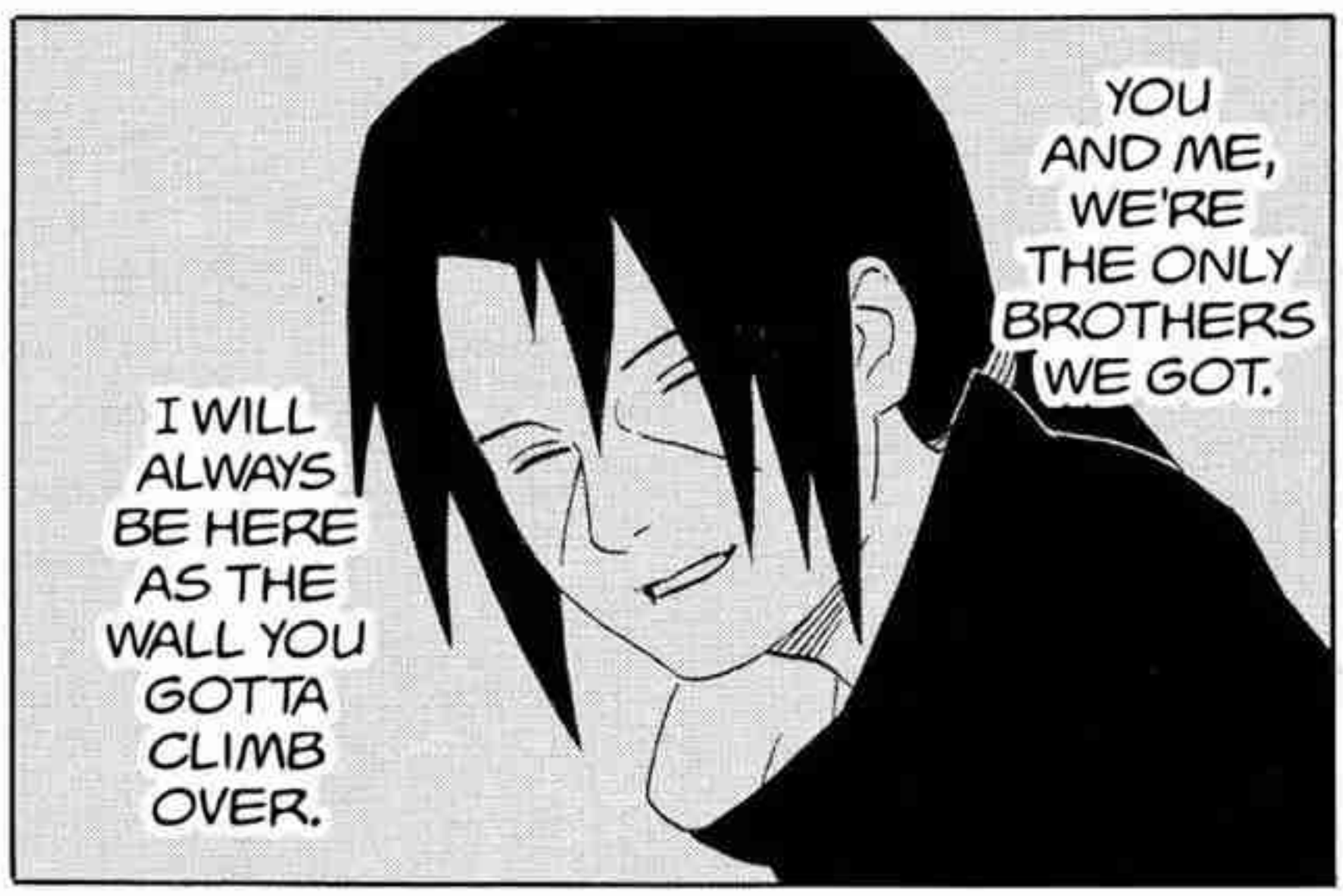
JIKK

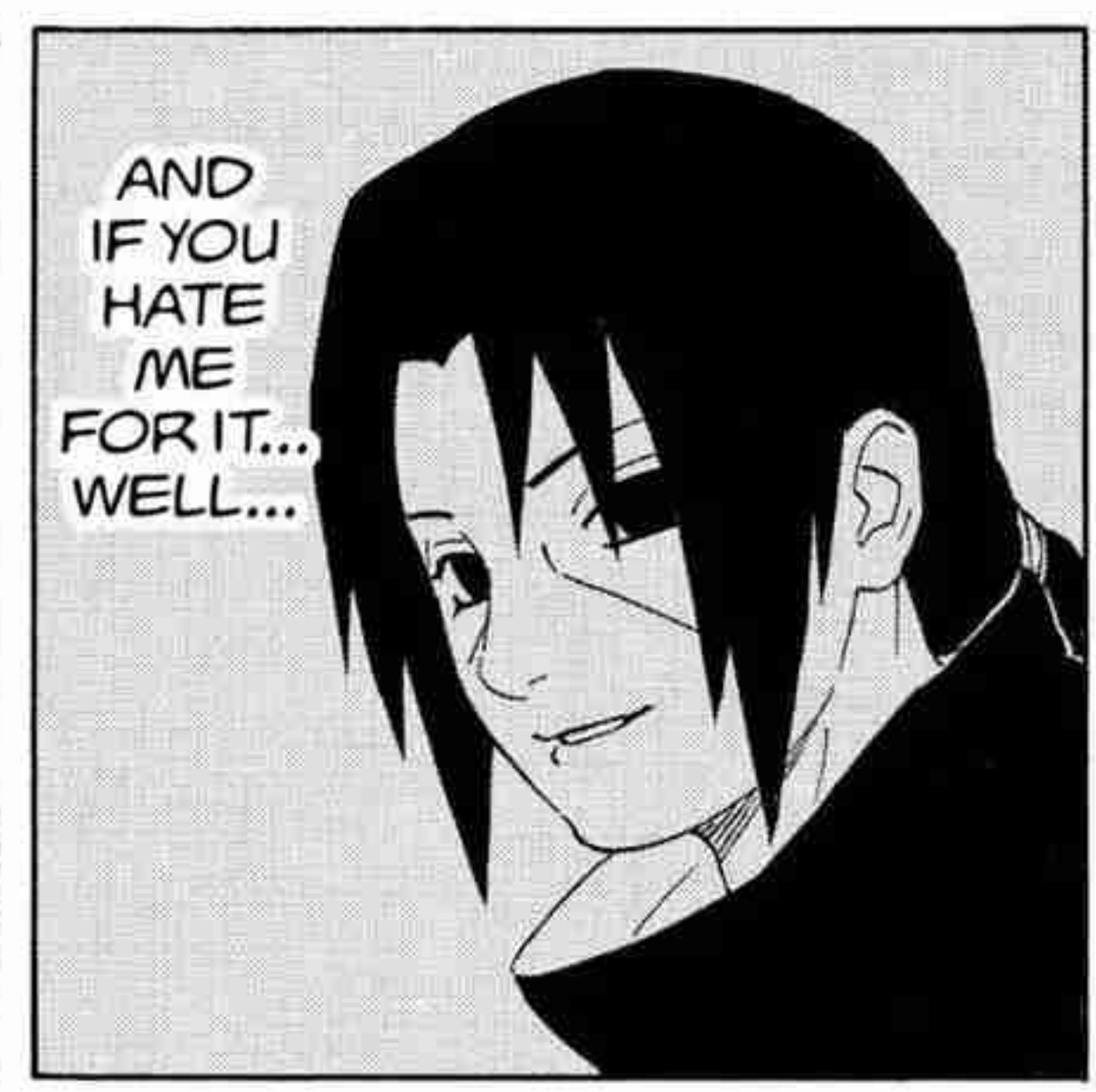
TAK

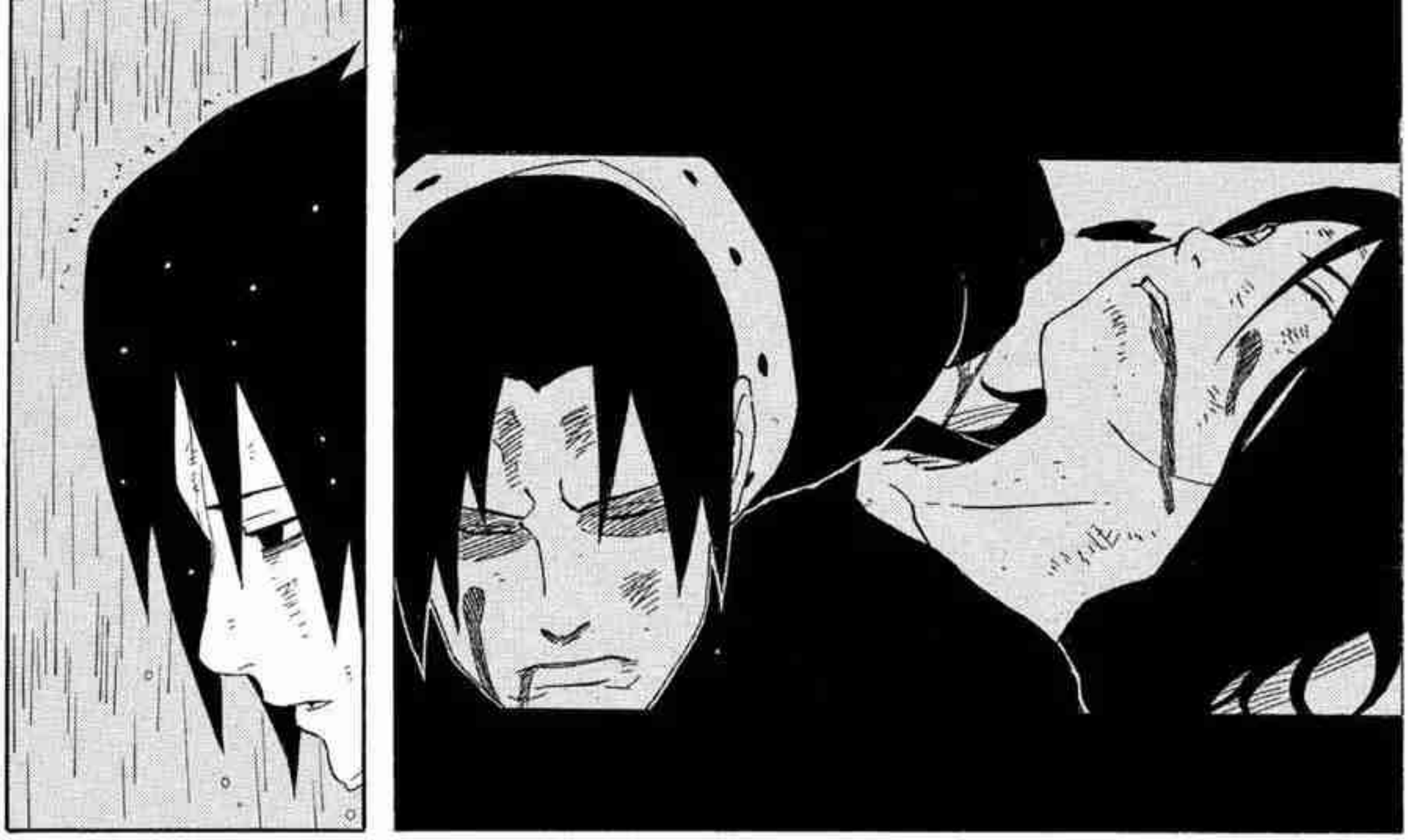


YOU'RE ALL DAD TALKS ABOUT.
WHEN-EVER WE CHAT ...


THAT'S MY BOY.


YOU AND ME, WE'RE THE ONLY BROTHERS WE GOT.
I WILL ALWAYS BE HERE AS THE WALL YOU GOTTA CLIMB OVER.

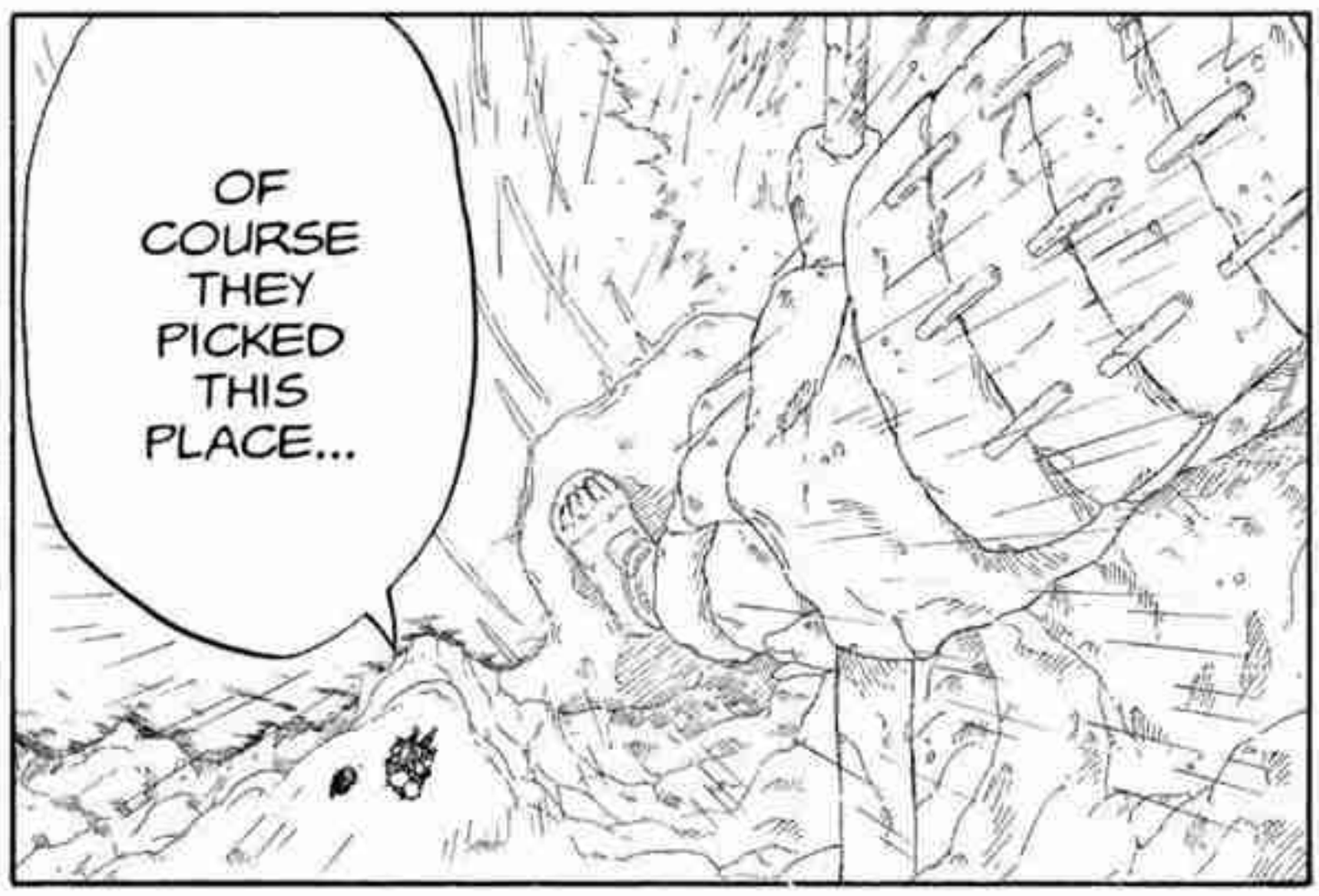

AND IF YOU HATE ME FOR IT... WELL...



BUT THERE'S A CATCH.
LIKE ME, YOU HAVE THE POWER TO AWAKEN THE MANGEKYO SHARINGAN.

...YOUR CLOSEST FRIEND.
YOU HAVE TO KILL...

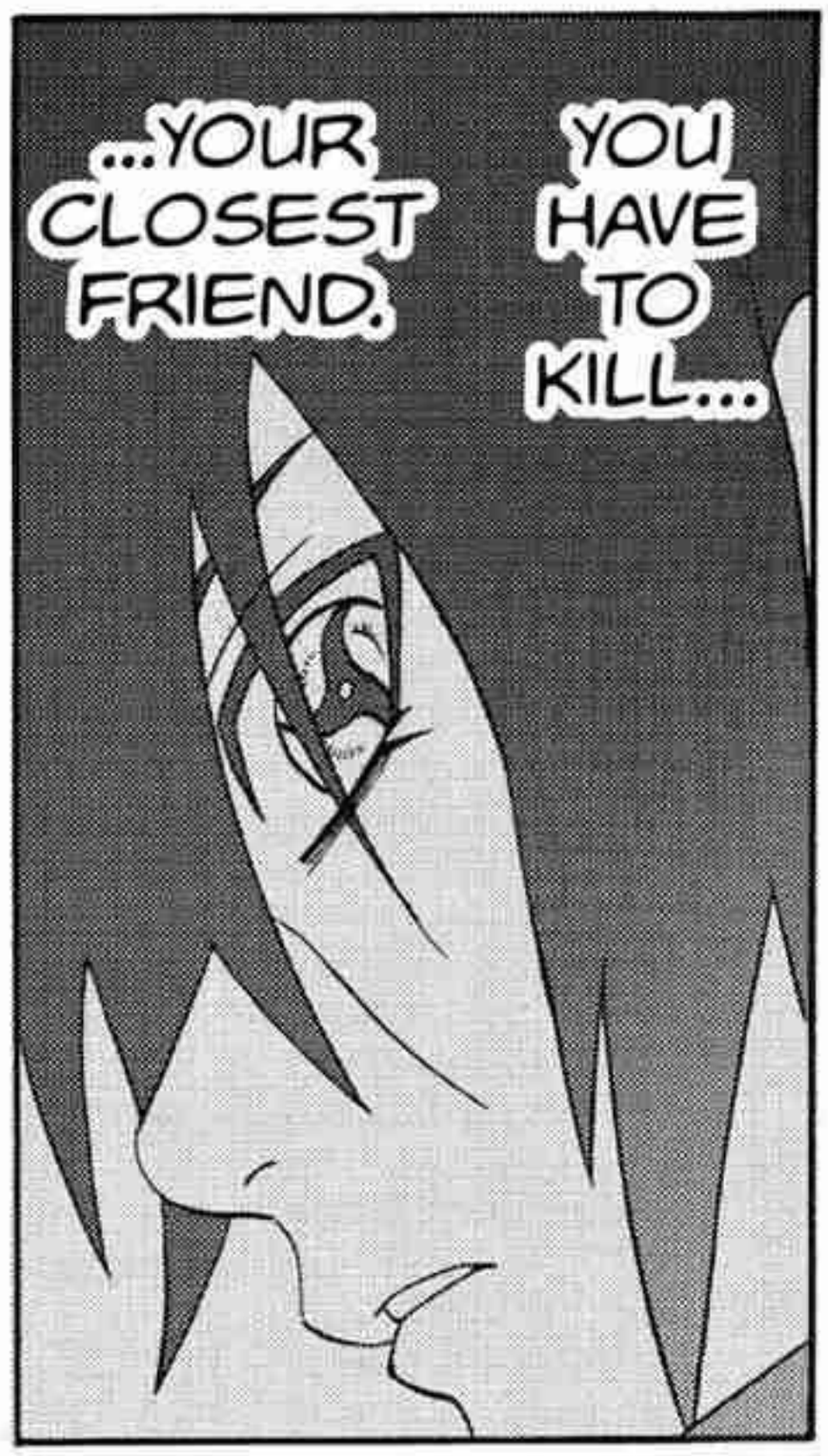
SHSSHHHHH


OF COURSE THEY PICKED THIS PLACE...

READ THIS WAY
PLISH
PLISH
PLISH
THEY SAY THIS RIVER WAS BORN FROM A SCAR...
...LEFT BY A PAIR OF WARRIORS, LONG AGO.
YES...
HOW IRONIC.
IT'S LIKE IT'S SHOWING ME...
...THAT THE BATTLE, LIKE IT, WILL NEVER CEASE.
YOU KNOW, WHEN I WATCH THE RIVER FLOW BY...
...WHO BUILT KONOHA VILLAGE, WHOSE STATUES LOOM OVER US.
LIKE THE TWO MEN...

NARUTO AND SASUKE ...

AS LONG AS THEY LIVE, THE CYCLE WILL CONTINUE ...


...YOUR CLOSEST FRIEND.
YOU HAVE TO KILL...

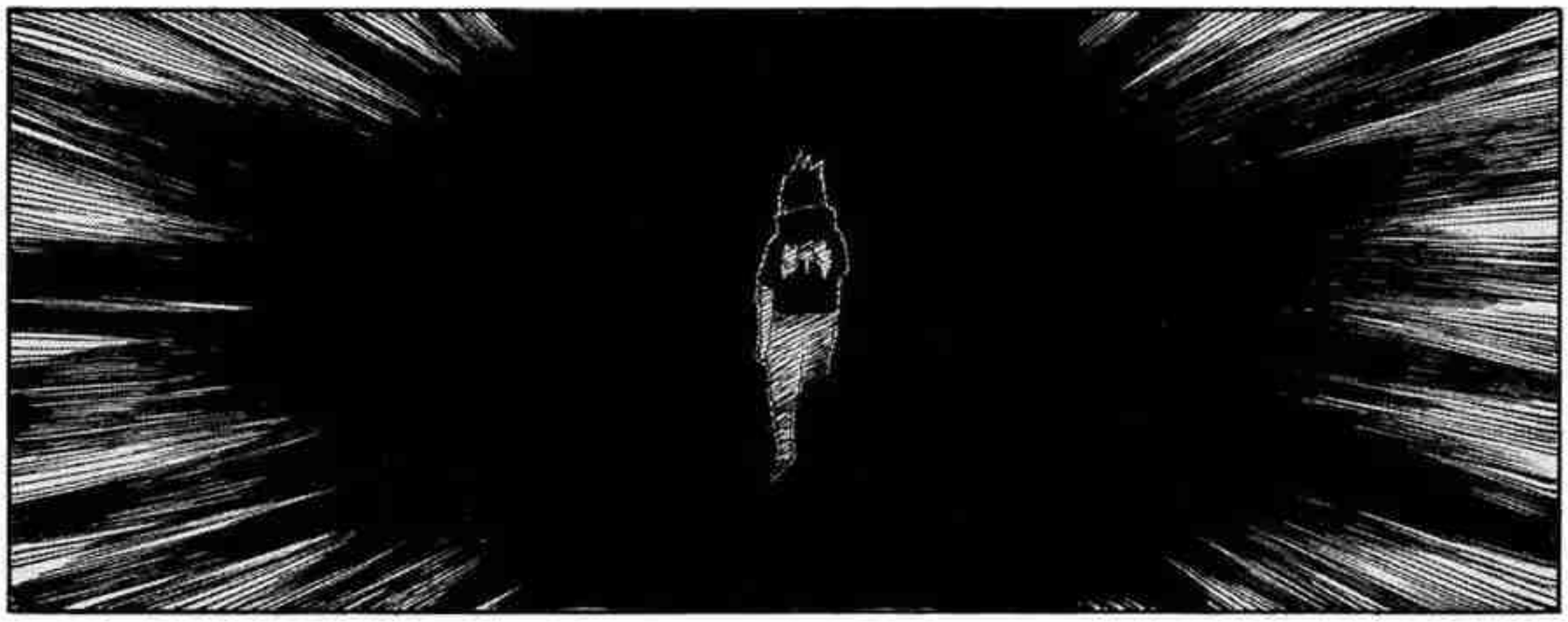
...

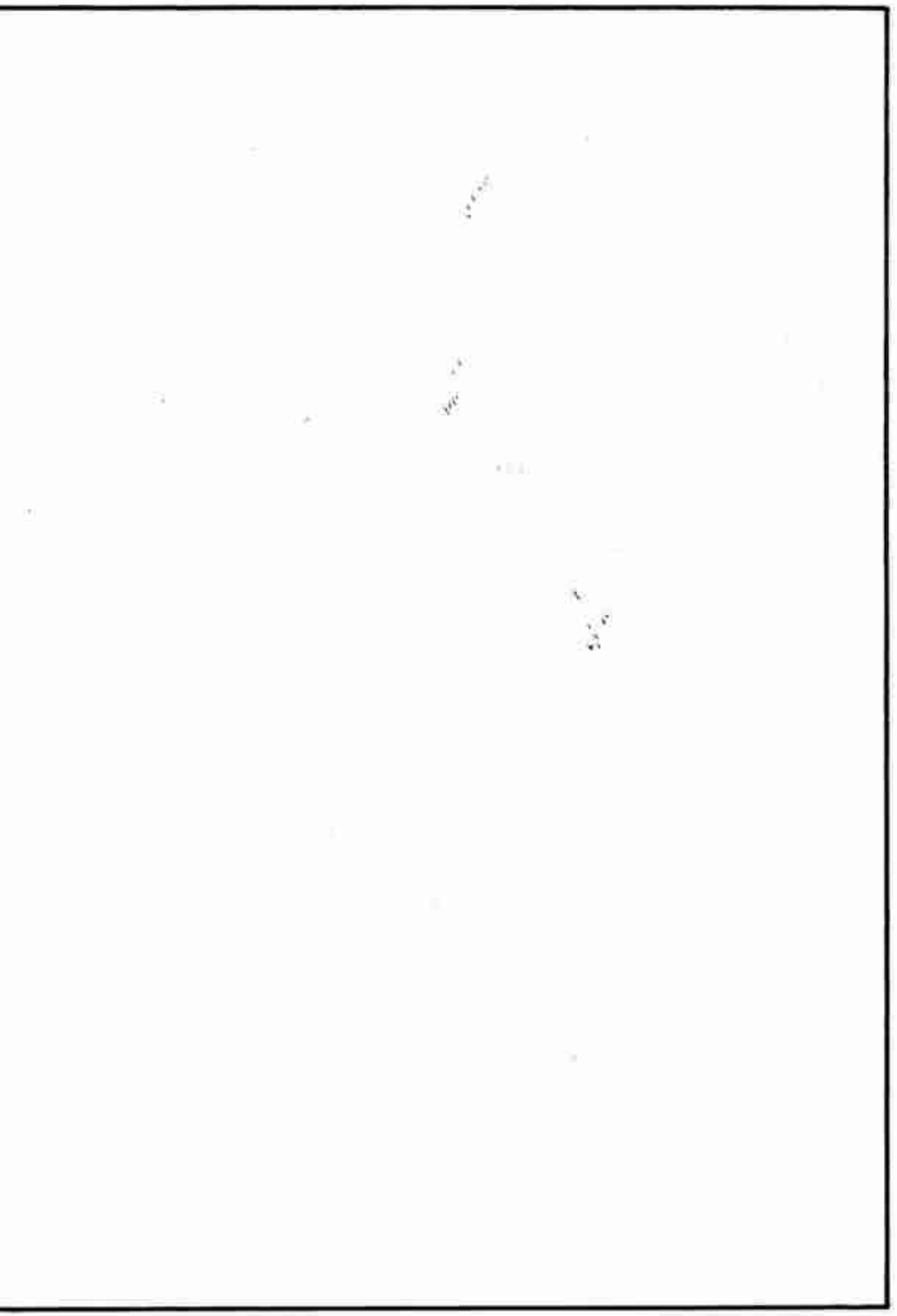
I WILL NOT LOSE CONTROL TO YOU!
I...

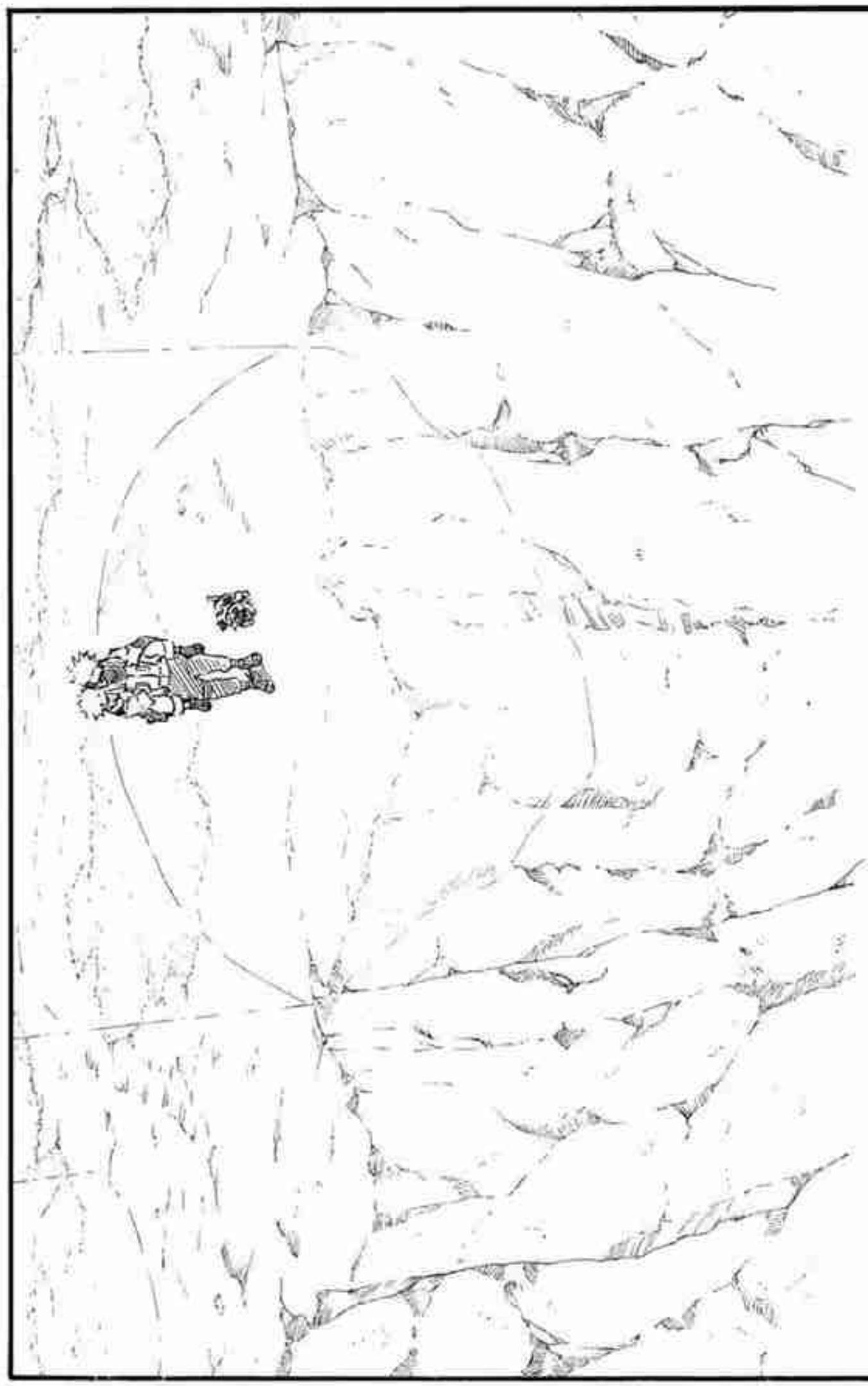
I WILL BE A BETTER MAN THAN YOU!

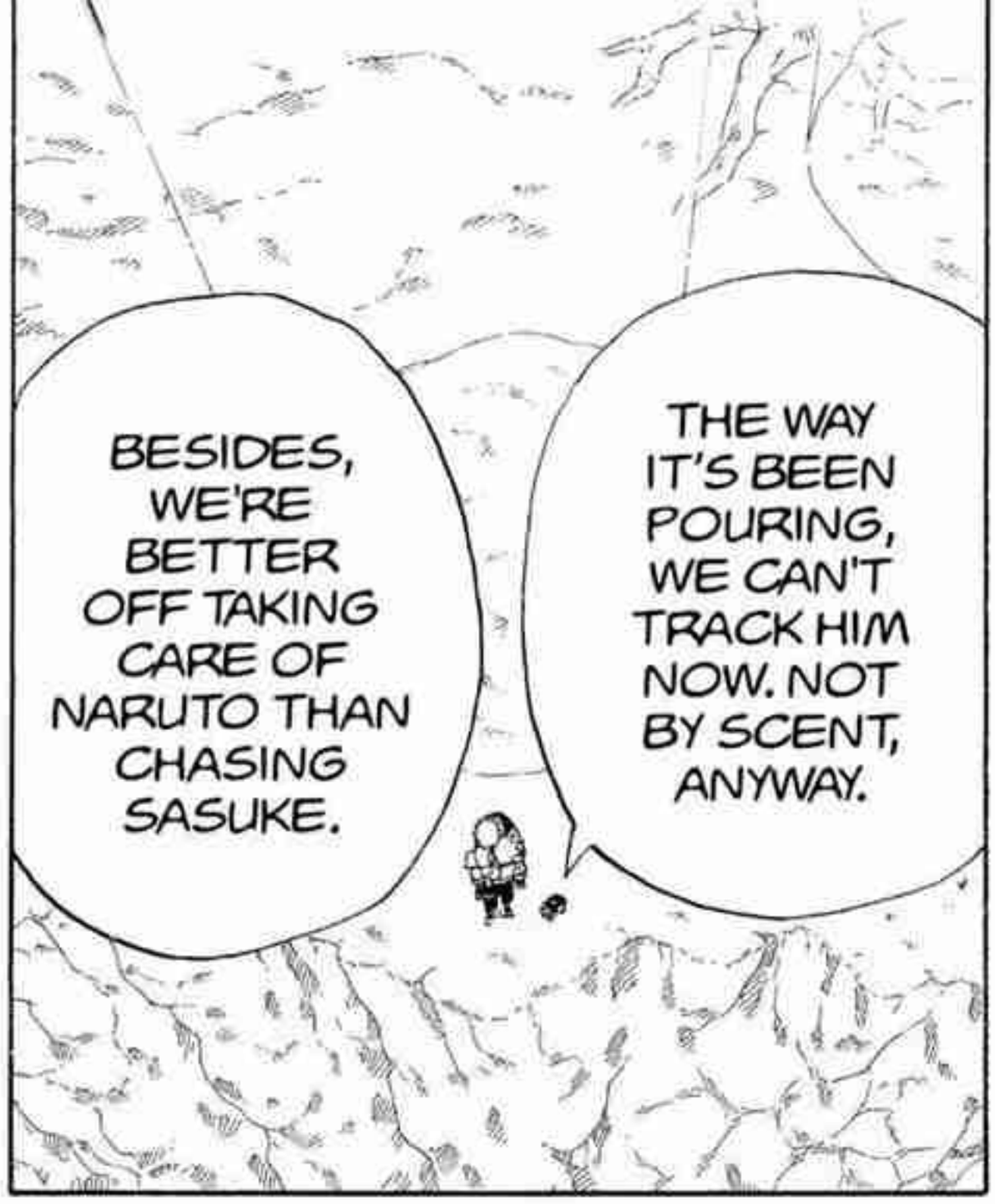
I'LL FIND MY OWN PATH TO POWER!

I WILL !!

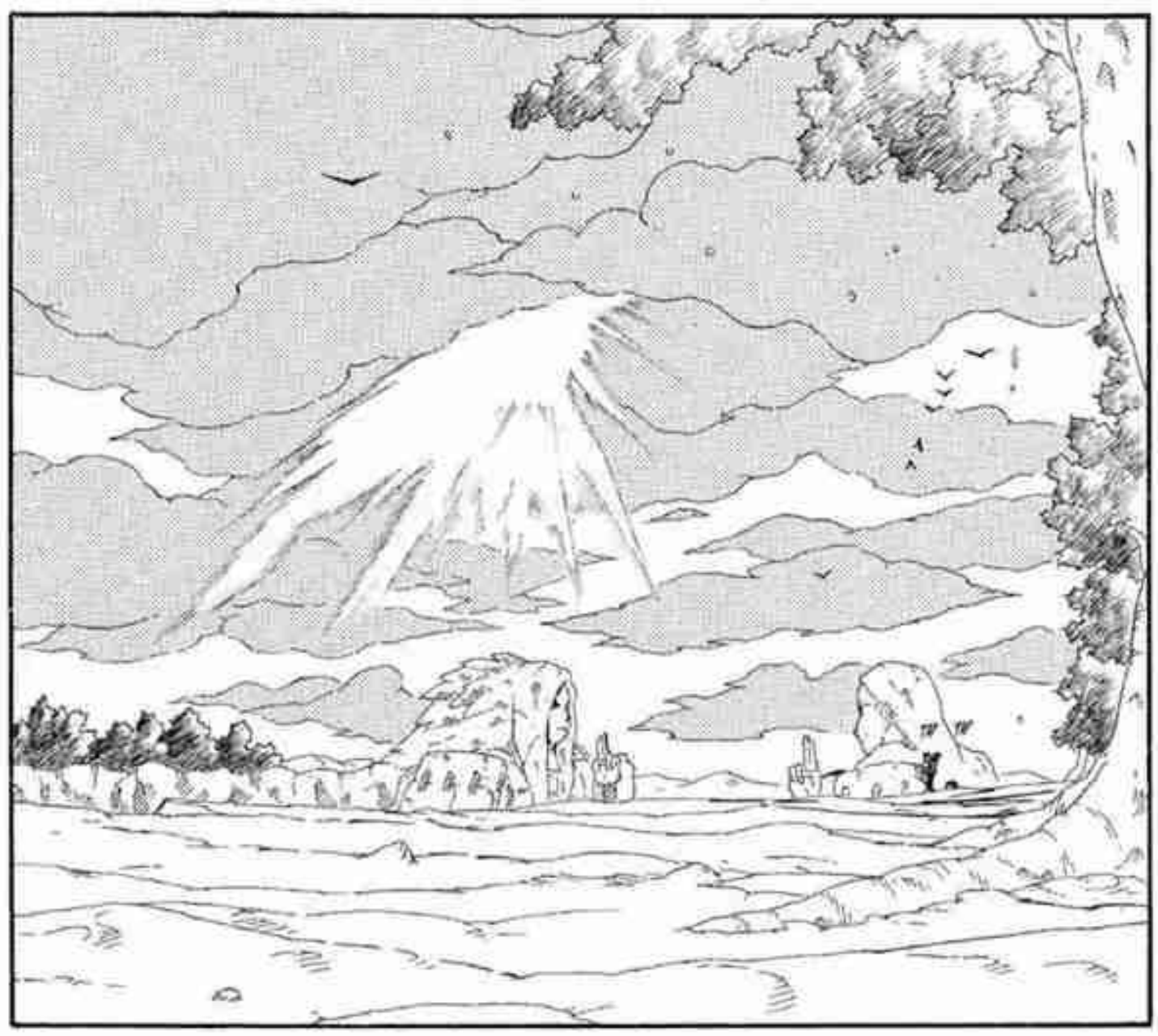







BESIDES, WE'RE BETTER OFF TAKING CARE OF NARUTO THAN CHASING SASUKE.
THE WAY IT'S BEEN POURING, WE CAN'T TRACK HIM NOW. NOT BY SCENT, ANYWAY.

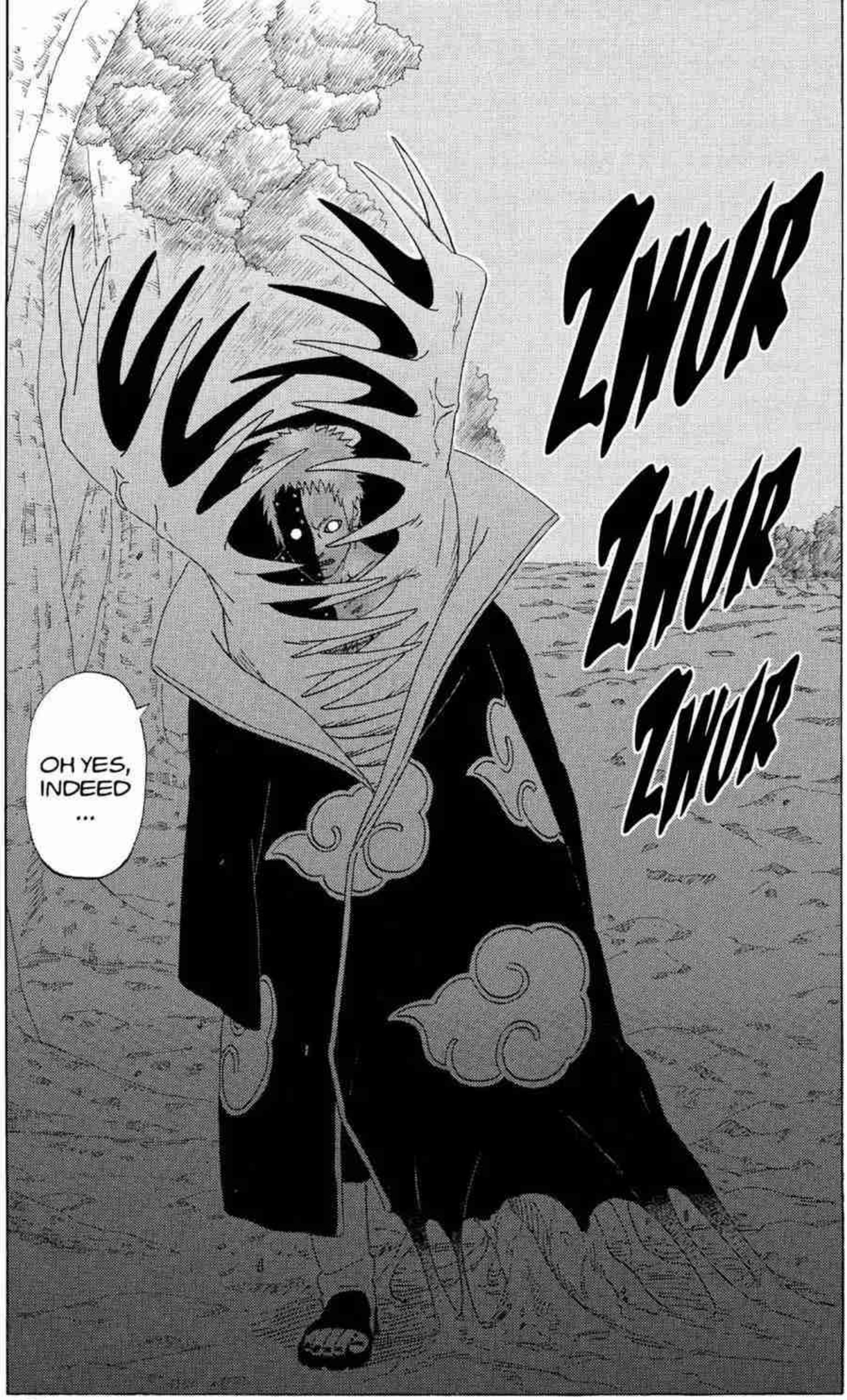
THE RAIN HAS STOPPED.



YES...

SHRIK
HMM... THINGS ARE GETTING MUCH MORE INTERESTING, DON'T YOU THINK?

RNNCH


ZHUR
ZHUR
ZHUR
OH YES, INDEED ...

NARUTO
TM

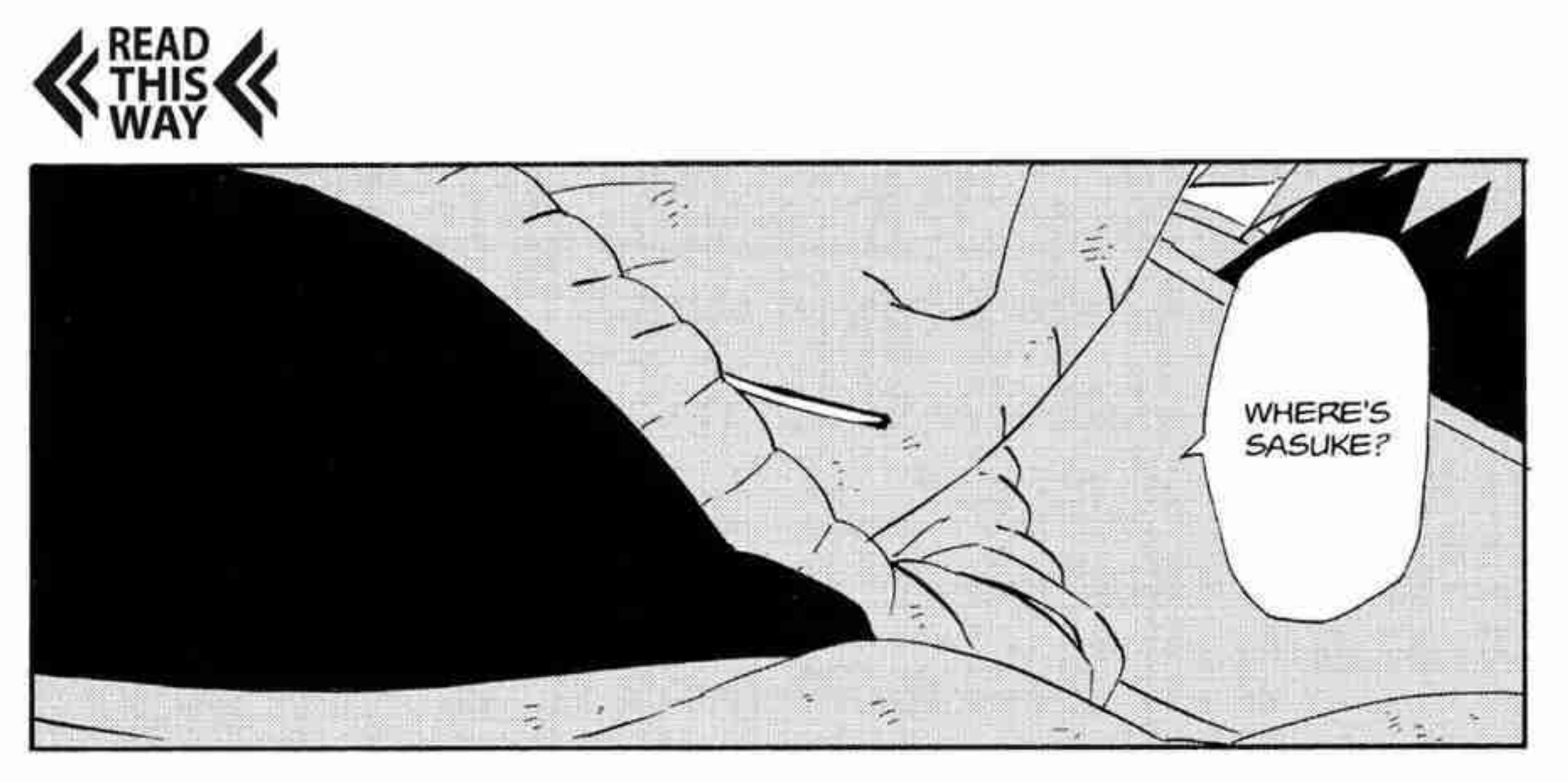
Number 235: Mission Failed...!!

HM?

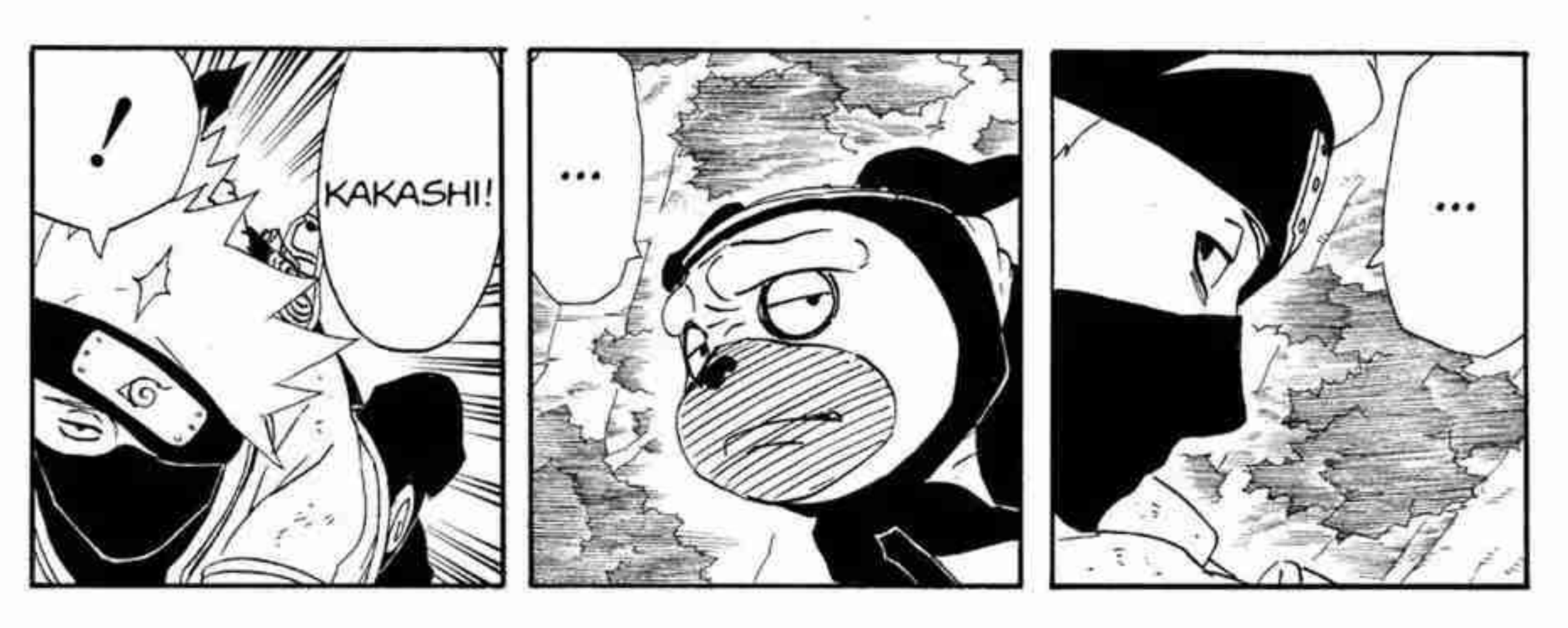
...

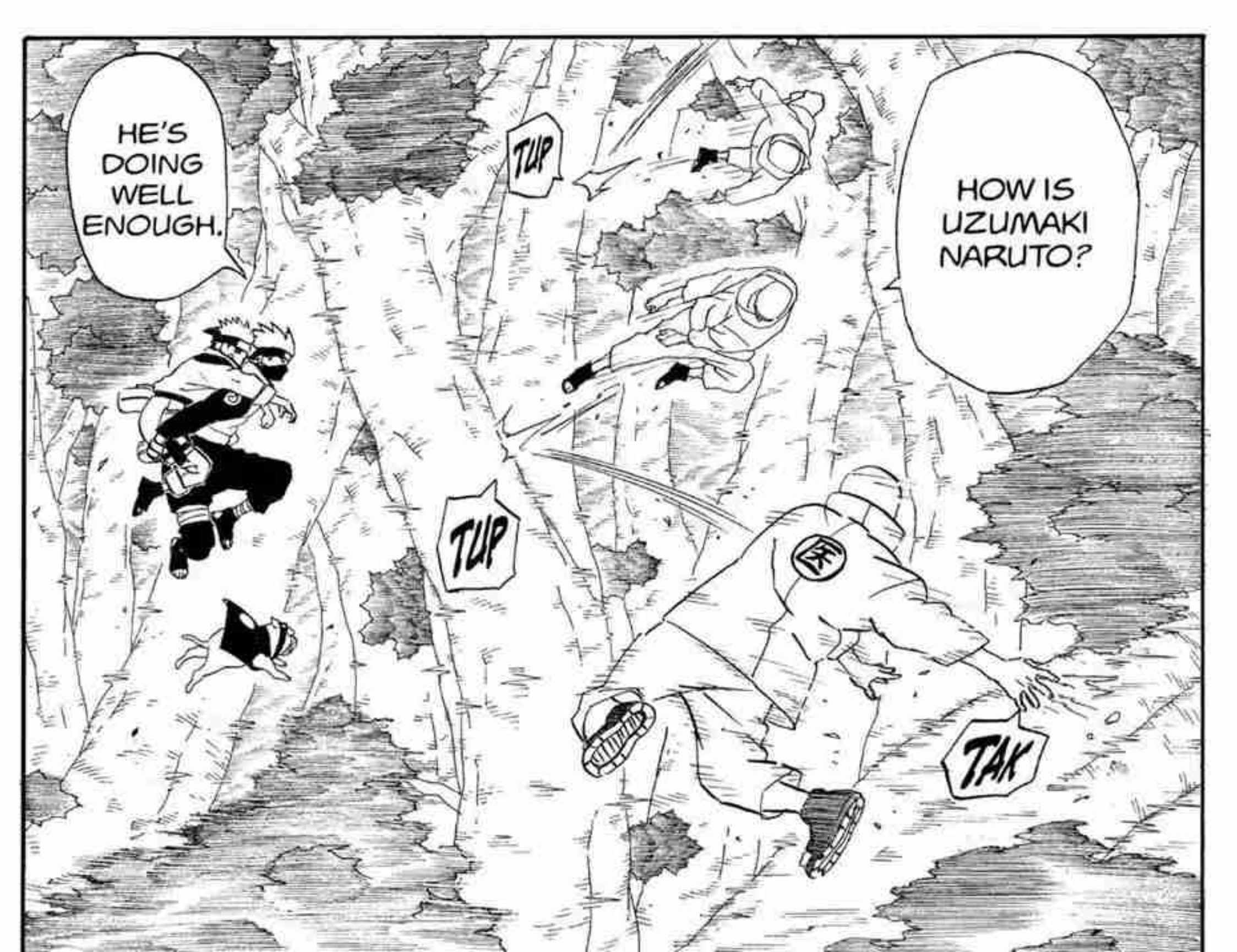
!

MASTER KAKASHI...
FOOSH


READ
THIS
WAY

WHERE'S SASUKE?


!
KAKASHI!
...
...


HE'S DOING WELL ENOUGH.
TUP
TUP
HOW IS UZUMAKI NARUTO?
TAK

AND SASUKE? WHERE'S UCHIHA SASUKE?!

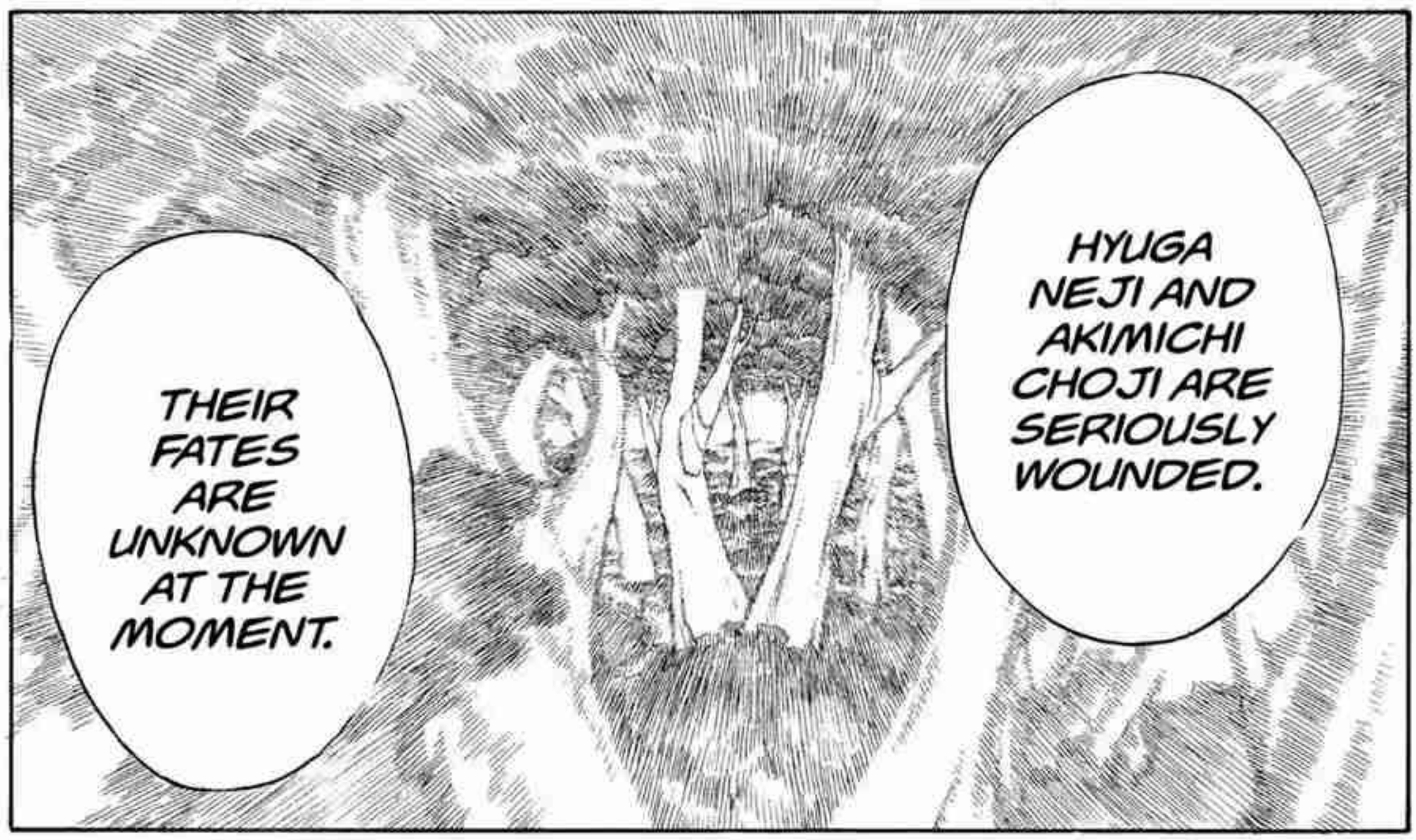
OH, YES!
THE LADY HOKAGE DISPATCHED MEDICAL CORPS ONE AND TWO.
THEY FOUND THE GENIN IN VARIOUS PLACES, ALL INJURED.
THEY PERFORMED SIMPLE FIRST AID AND CARRIED THEM BACK.

...

WHAT OF THE OTHER GENIN?

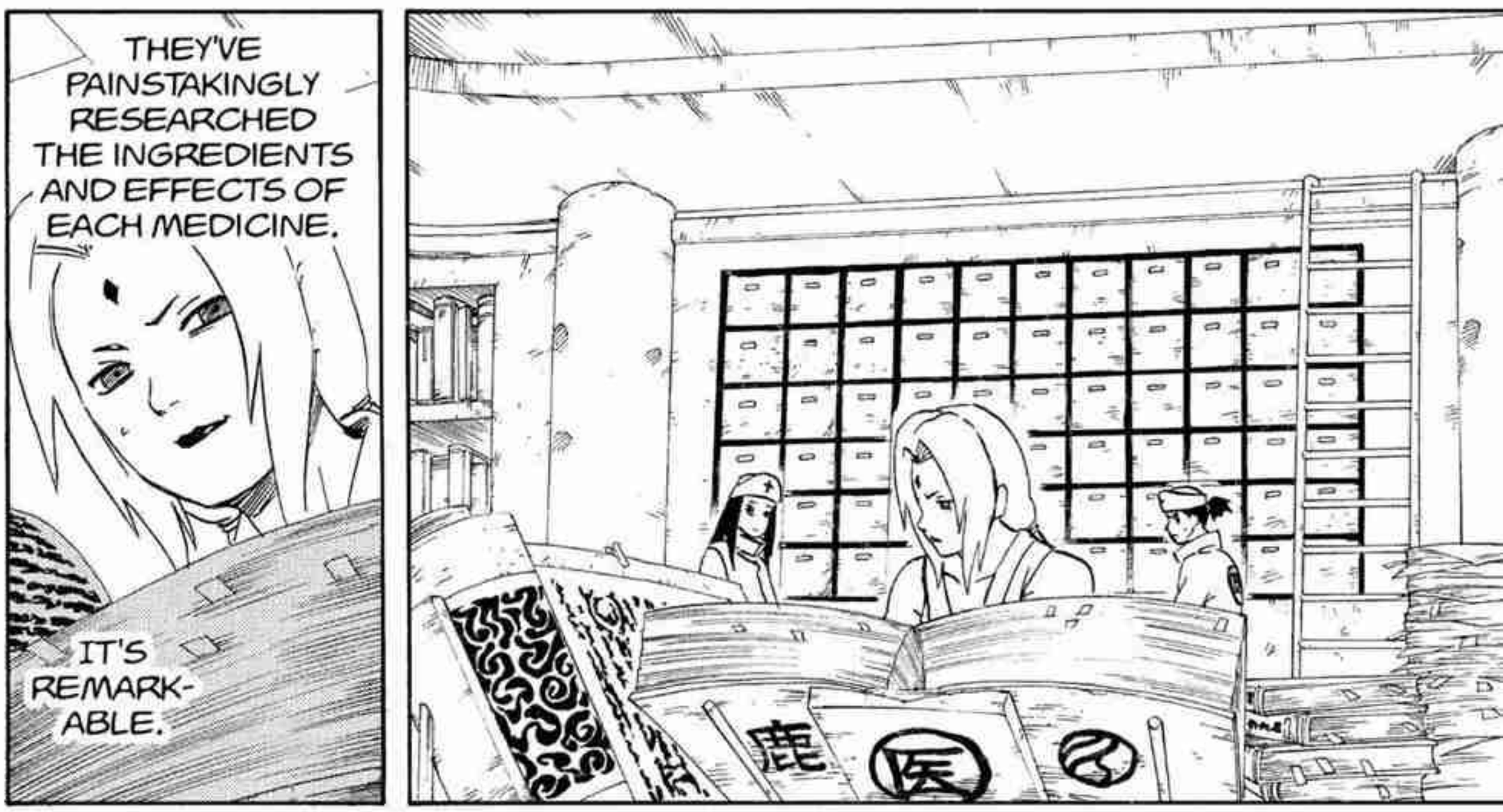
INUZUKA KIBA TOOK SOME DEEP LACERA-TIONS...
BUT HIS LIFE IS IN NO REAL DANGER.
RIGHT! WELL.
NARA SHIKAMARU SUFFERED MINOR INJURIES.

HOW ARE THEY?


THEIR FATES ARE UNKNOWN AT THE MOMENT.
HYUGA NEJI AND AKIMICHI CHOJI ARE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED.

YOU GUYS...

...


THEY'VE PAINSTAKINGLY RESEARCHED THE INGREDIENTS AND EFFECTS OF EACH MEDICINE.
IT'S REMARK-ABLE.

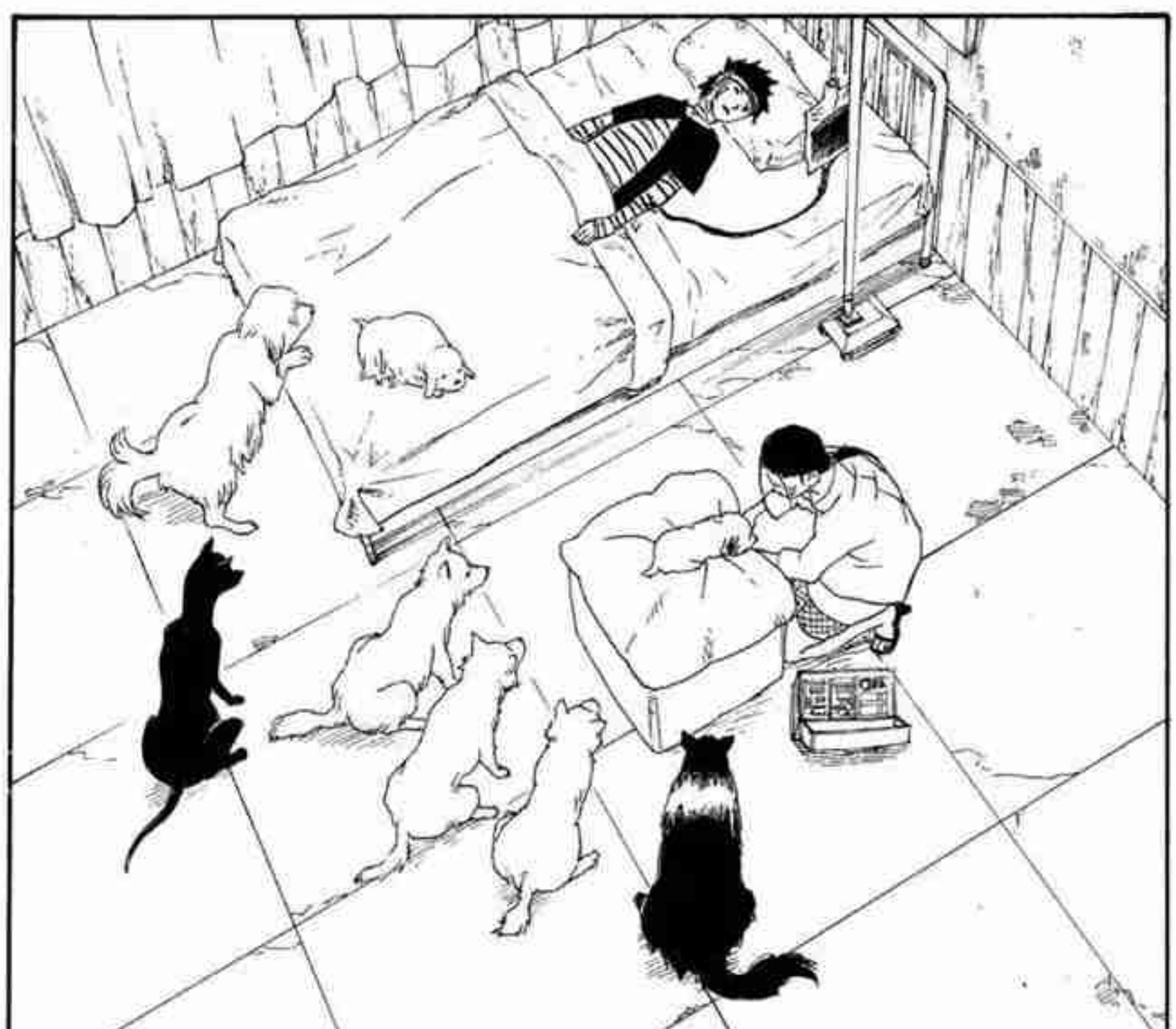
医
木ノ葉病院

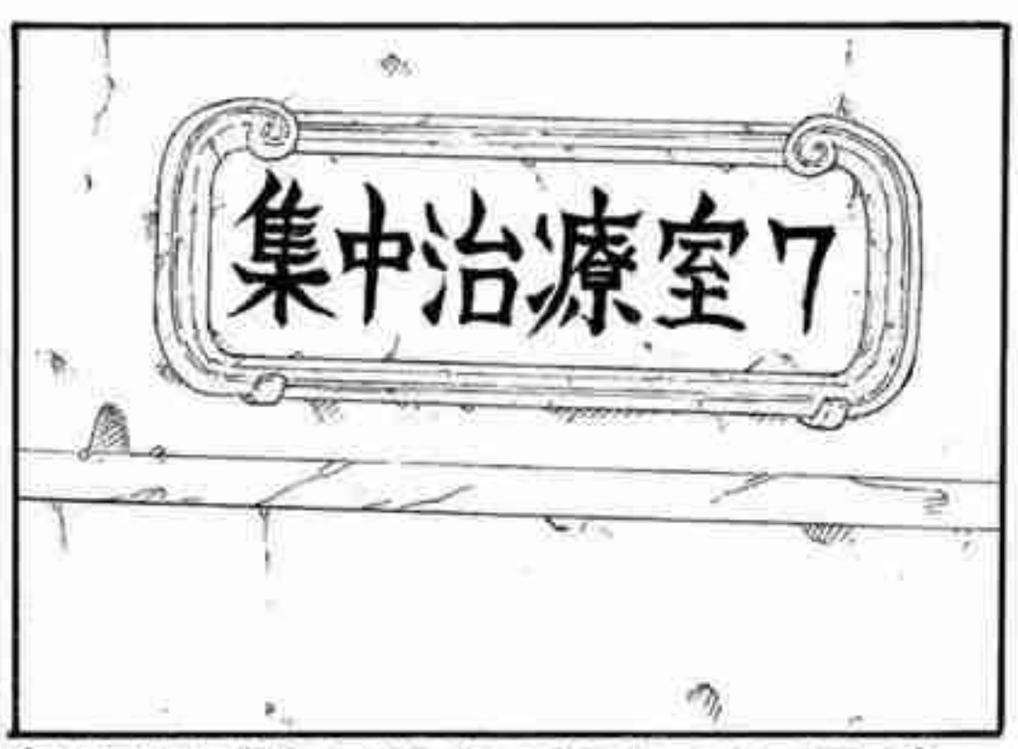
CHURK
CHURK

THE ONE FINAL INGREDIENT IS DEER HORN. CAN YOU GET IT?
YES!

SIS? HOW IS HE?

...





(INTENSIVE CARE WARD, ROOM 7)

GWURH GWURH GWURH GWURH GWURH GWURH GWURH GWURH

前 前 前 前

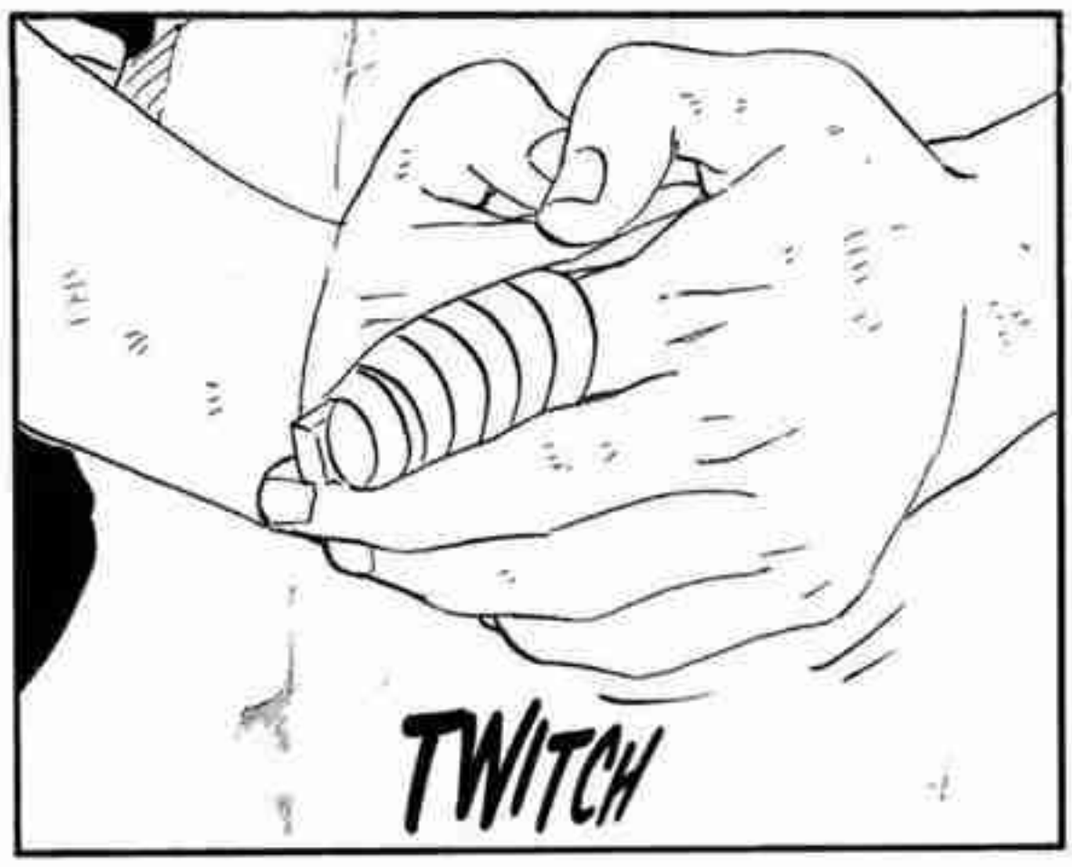
臨 兵 闘 者 皆 陣 列 在

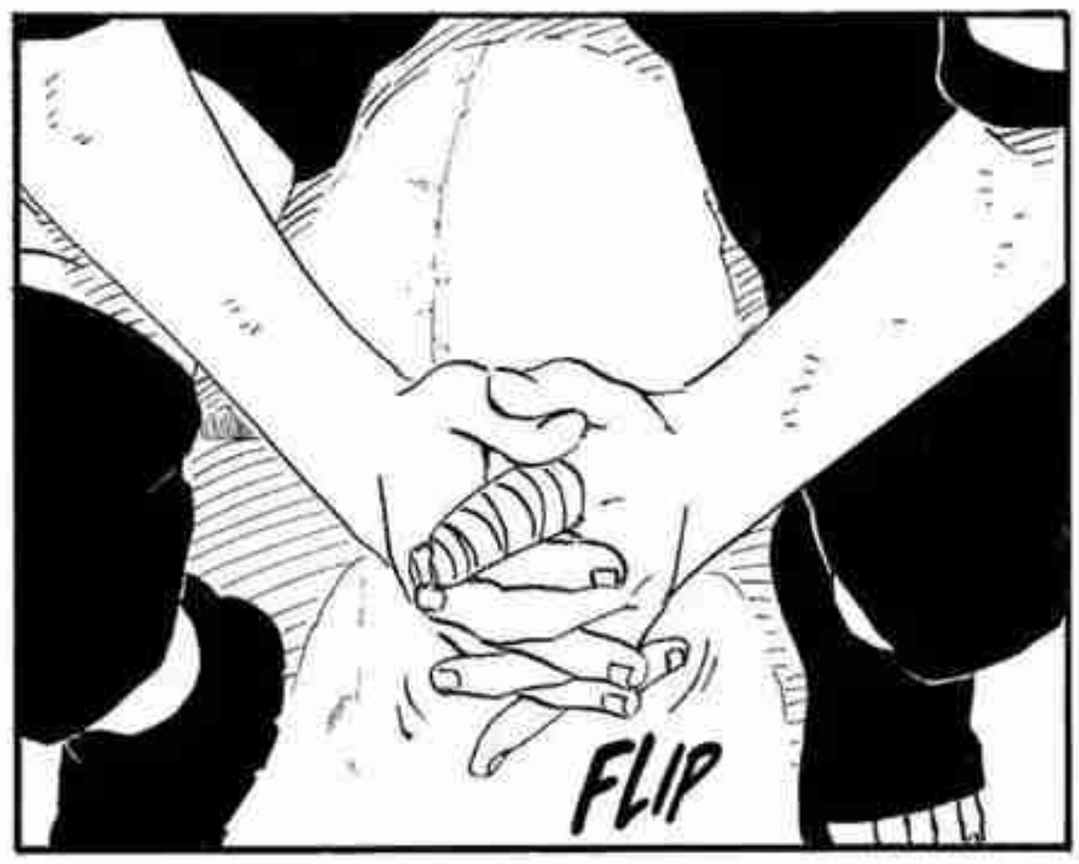
YOU MUST CONTROL YOUR CHAKRA LIKE THE SURGEONS YOU ARE!

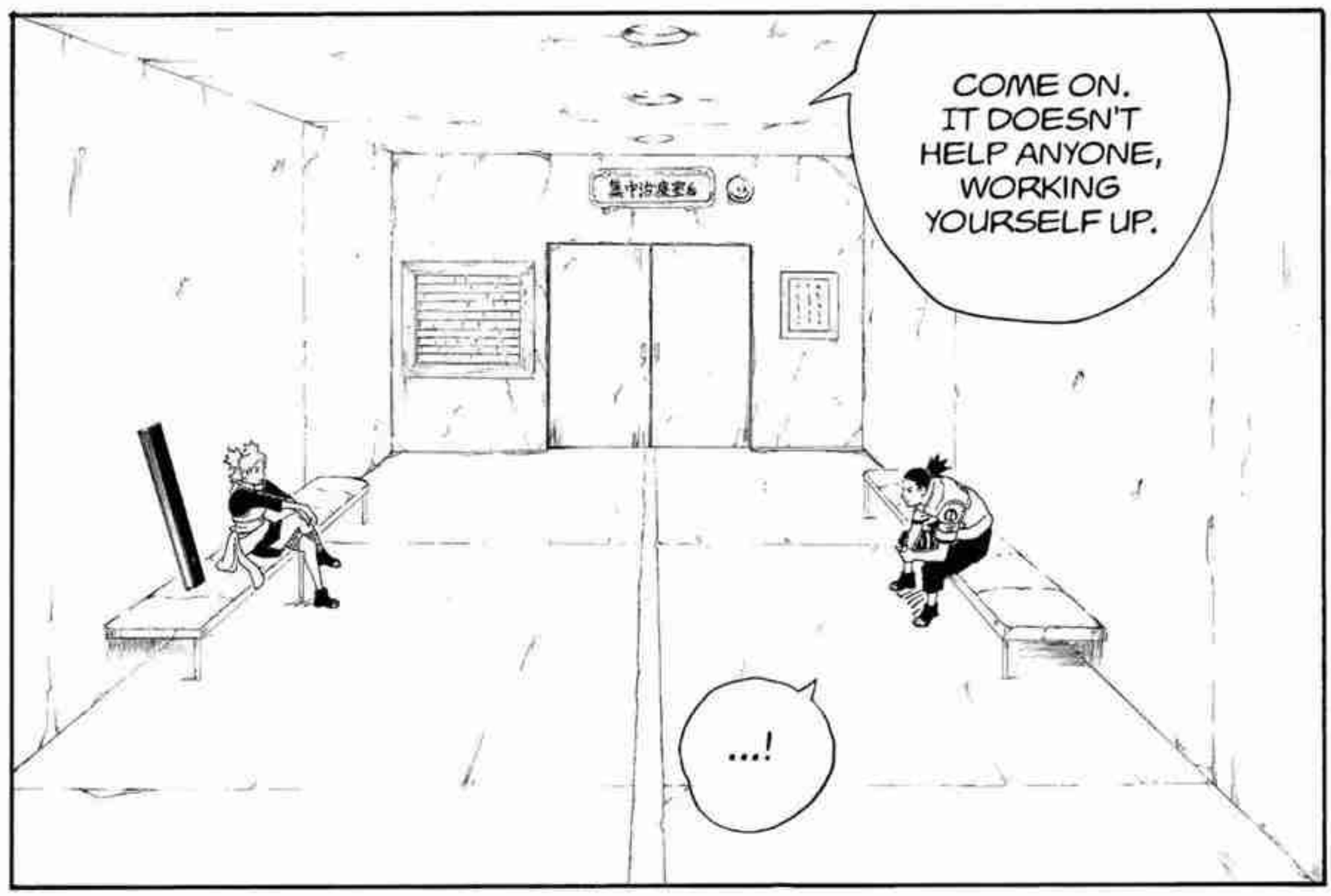
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE USING THE BOY'S HAIR AS THE MEDIUM...

WE CAN'T AFFORD TO MESS UP THE CELL BALANCE IN THE LOST TISSUES!

(THE SYMBOL PICTURED ABOVE, CALLED A MANJI, IS TRADITIONAL IN BUDDHIST IMAGERY-ED.)


TWITCH


FLIP


COME ON. IT DOESN'T HELP ANYONE, WORKING YOURSELF UP.
...!

...

YOU'VE HAD PSYCHO-LOGICAL TRAINING!
WITH EVERY MISSION COMES SACRIFICE.

IT HELPED ME REALIZE ...

I... THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I WAS NAMED CELL LEADER.

I'VE BEEN ON MISSIONS BEFORE...

I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT IT WAS TO BE A SHINOBI.

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRAINING AND DOING.

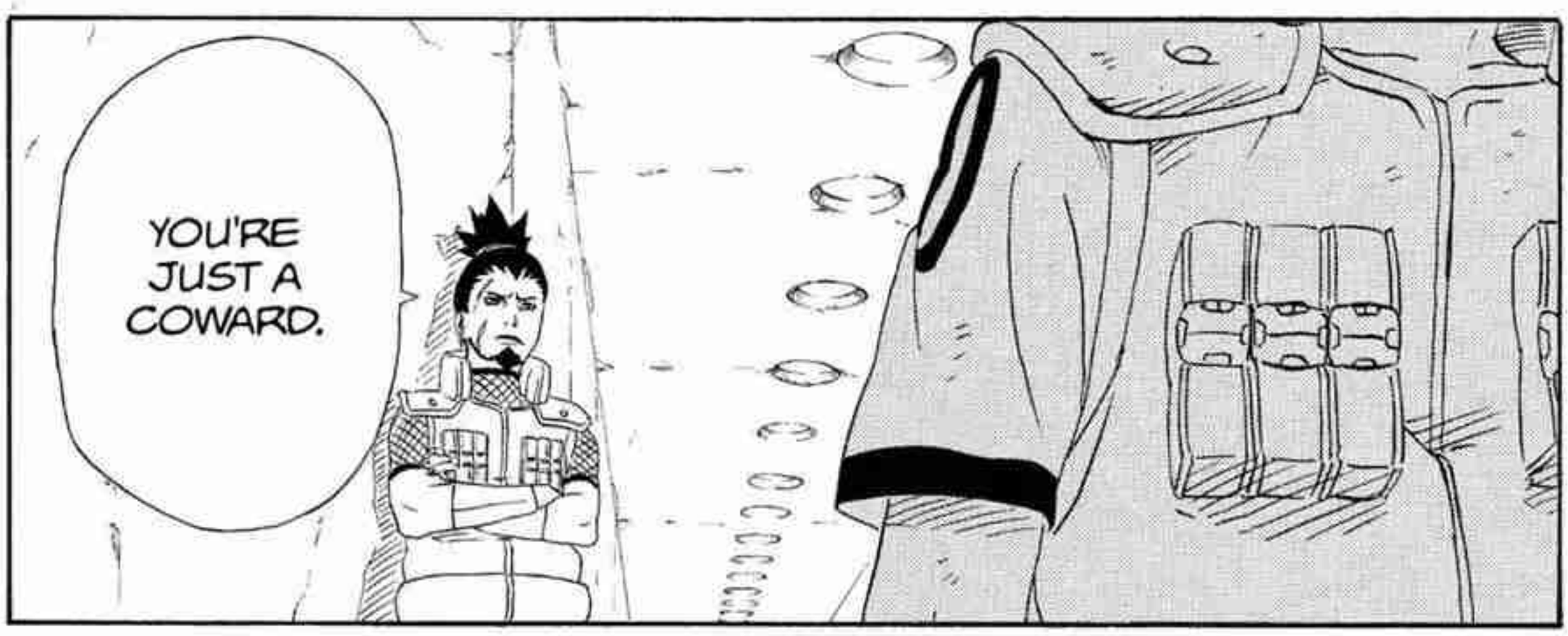
療室6

I'M NOT FIT TO BE A SHINOBI.

READ THIS WAY
SO YOU'RE AFRAID OF GETTING HURT?
...
I WAS TOO NAÏVE... INADEQUATE FOR THE TASK...
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.
AS A CELL LEADER, ALL I COULD DO WAS...
...PUT MY TRUST IN THEM.
TEP TEP
SHFF
SO WHEN A GIRL WHIPS HER TONGUE, YOU TURN TAIL?
HEY, SHIKA-MARU...

OF COURSE ...
BUT YOU'RE NOT MUCH OF A MAN EITHER.

I DON'T HAVE THE ENERGY RIGHT NOW FOR QUARRELING. THAT'S ALL.
I'M NOT A WOMAN, ALL RIGHT?


YOU'RE JUST A COWARD.

THEY'LL BE NO LESS LIKELY TO DIE THEN...

THEY'LL STILL SEND YOUR FRIENDS, JUST UNDER A DIFFERENT LEADER.
IT'S THE WAY THESE THINGS WORK.
WHETHER YOU'RE HERE OR NOT, THE MISSIONS WILL GO ON.
AND SOMEONE HAS TO CARRY THEM OUT.

...

READ
THIS
WAY

YOU MADE IT BACK. REFLECT ON WHAT HAPPENED THIS TIME, AND LEARN FROM THE EXPERIENCE.
THEN YOUR NEXT MISSION WILL BE PERFECT.

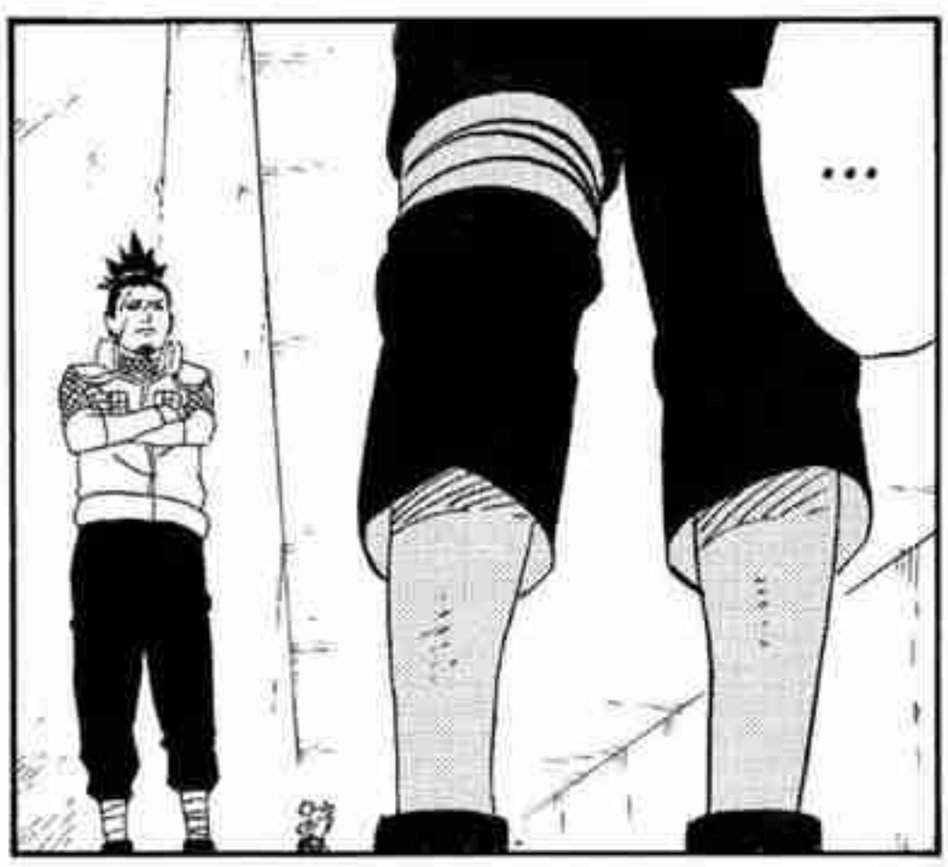
YOUR FRIENDS WILL SURVIVE.
BUT MAYBE... IF YOU'RE THEIR LEADER...

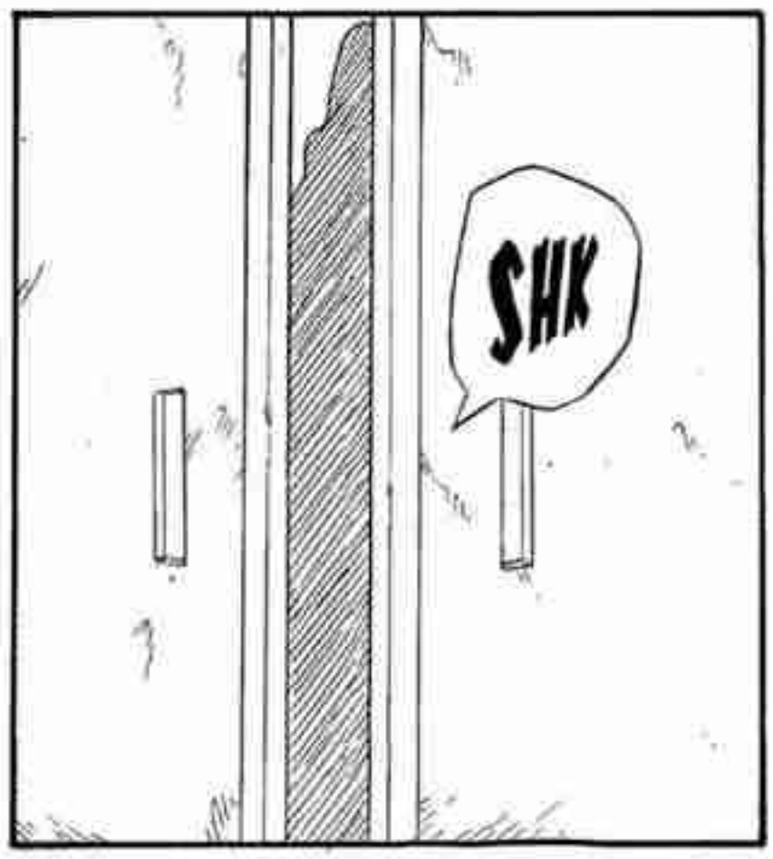
THEN INSTEAD OF RUNNING AWAY...
IF YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS ...

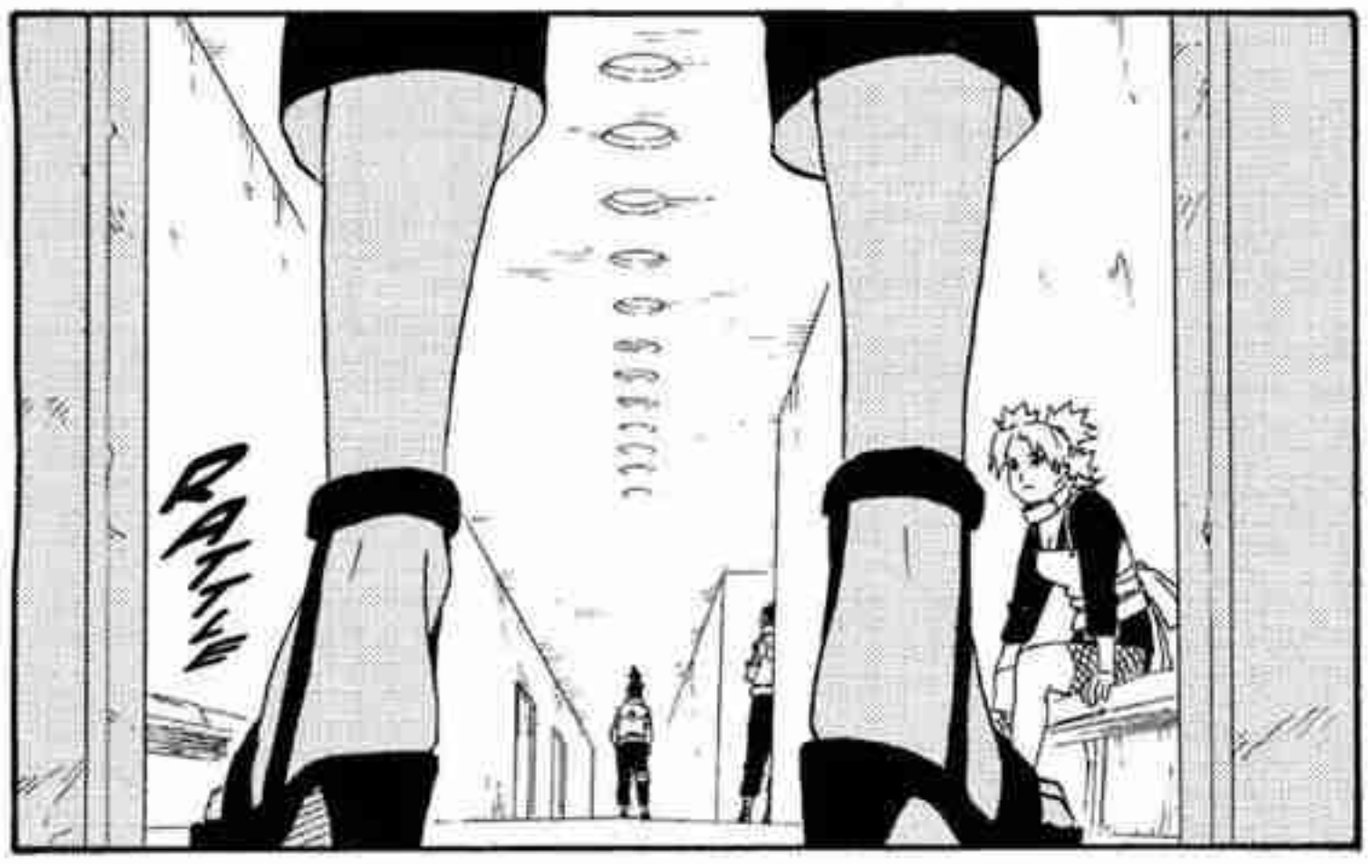
YOU SHOULD SET YOUR MIND...
...TO IMPROVING YOURSELF.

ISN'T THAT THE WAY FRIENDS BEHAVE?!

MILKSOP?







HE'S OKAY NOW.

...

TWIK

I THANK YOU, SHIKAKU.

THOP

HIS MEDICATION HAD A SIDE EFFECT THAT WAS EATING AWAY AT HIS HEALTHY CELLS...

BUT I FOUND AN ANTIDOTE THAT WORKED.

LADY TSUNADE!!

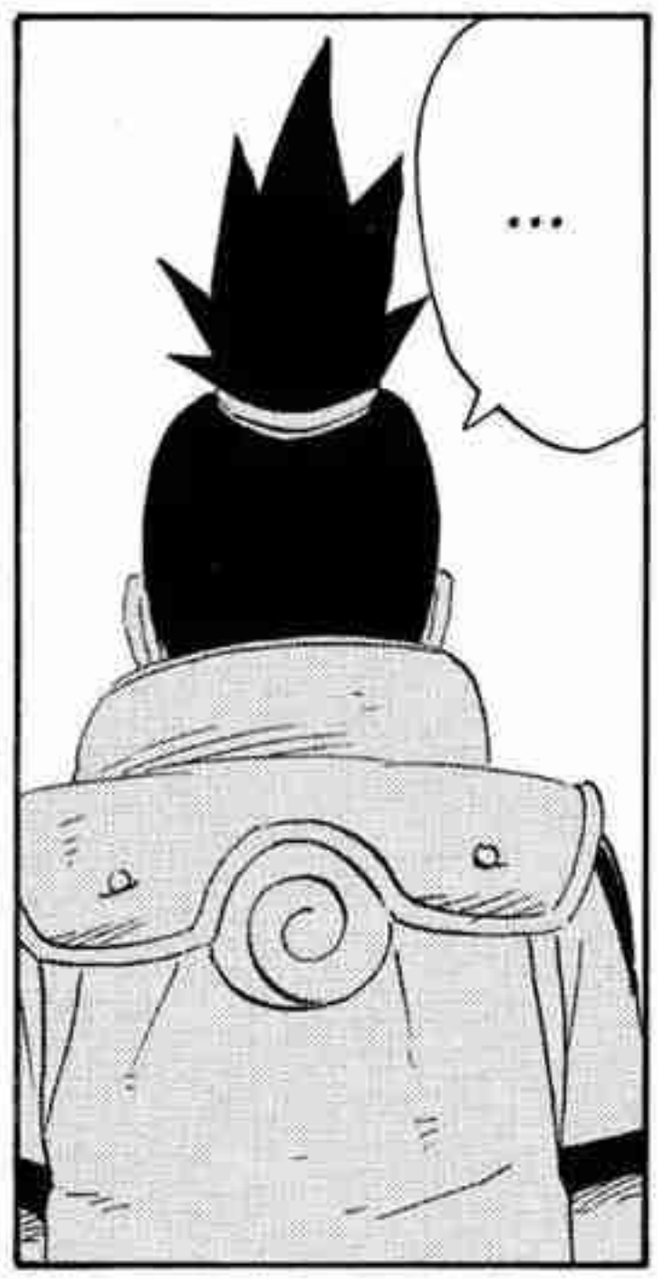
!

THANK YOU. REALLY!

IT TOOK TREMENDOUS EFFORT TO PUT IT TOGETHER.

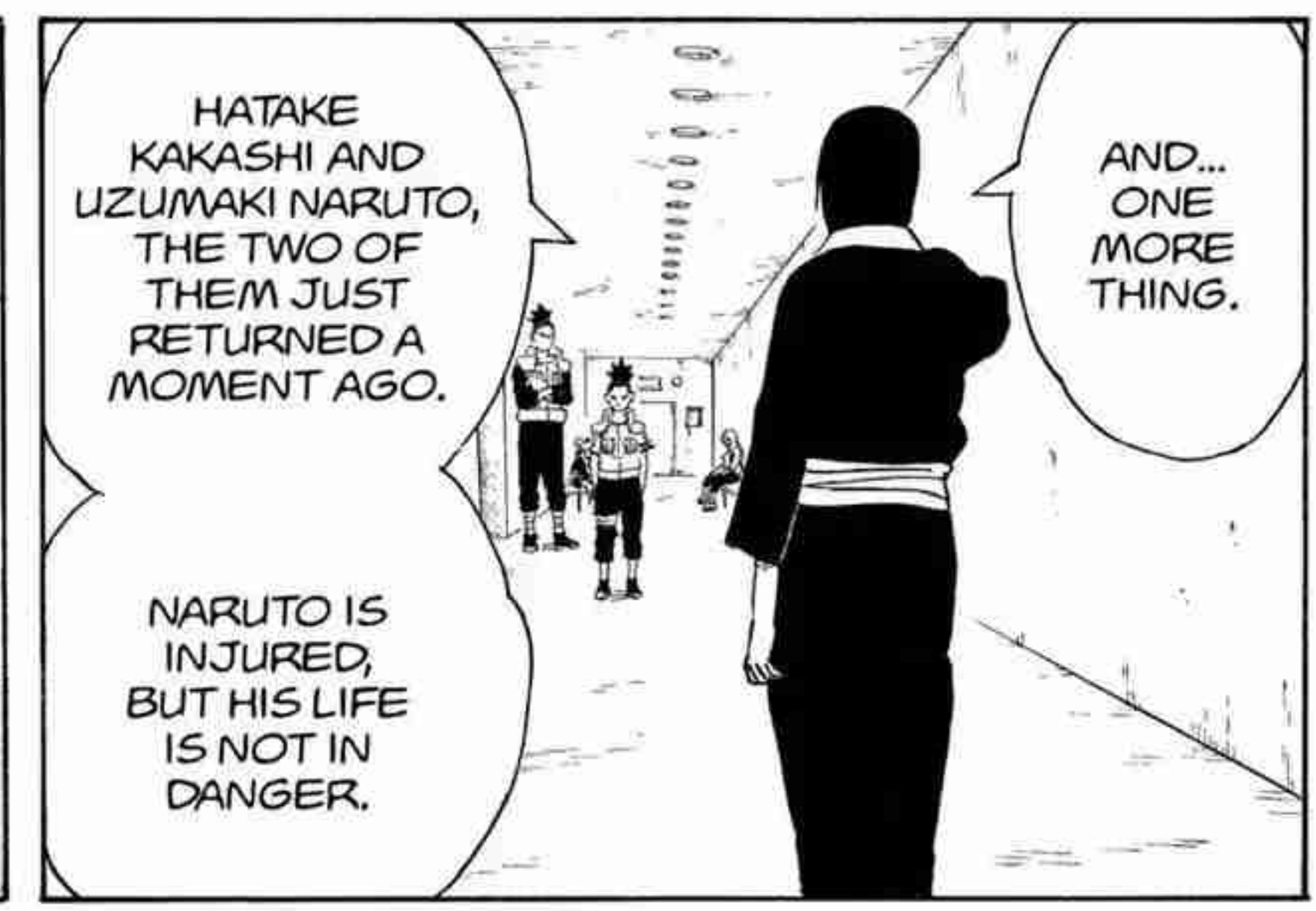
IT'S THE SWEET FRUIT OF ALL YOUR DAILY LABOR.

THE NARA CLAN'S SACRED MEDICINE GUIDE WAS A BIG HELP.


...

HYUGA NEJI...
...IS OUT OF THE DANGER ZONE!
HUF
HUF
HUF

...


HATAKE KAKASHI AND UZUMAKI NARUTO, THE TWO OF THEM JUST RETURNED A MOMENT AGO.
NARUTO IS INJURED, BUT HIS LIFE IS NOT IN DANGER.
AND... ONE MORE THING.

JUST THE TWO OF THEM?

...

TO BE CONTINUED IN *NARUTO* VOL. 27!